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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Case of Tubercular Peritonitis, with remarks upon the association of oily Liver with Tubercular Phthisis. By JAMES DARRACH, M. D., Resident Physician at the Pennsylvania Hospital.

Eliza B——, æt. eighteen years; admitted into the hospital March 17th. Previous to this time she was under the charge of Dr. F. W. Lewis, from whom I received the following account of her case before entering the hospital.

She was of healthy parents; arrived in this country from Ireland, in October, 1852, and remained well, with the exception of some irregularity in her catamenia, up to December, a year ago; she was then attacked with cough, followed by a diarrhœa of a dysenteric nature, which has continued to the present time.

In February, 1853, the abdomen began to swell, since which period her health has declined; she became emaciated, lost appetite, had hectic, and profuse night sweats.

February 10th, 1854. The abdomen much swollen; skin cool and moist; fixed pain in lumbar regions; abdominal walls thick-

ened, so much so as to prevent any examination of the viscera beneath; superficial veins very large; auscultation and percussion of thoracic viscera, healthy; pulse 120, small and irritable; tongue red and moist; thirst; anorexia; diarrhœa; some pain with her stools, which are dark brown, slimy, and offensive; urine normal in color and quantity, contains no albumen, no sugar; sp. gr. 1015. In a subsequent examination, a few tube casts were discovered.

She was placed under the use of the liquor ferri nitratis gtt. x. thrice daily, with tinct. opii acetata gtt. x. t. d. given half an hour after the iron; was given a good diet. Under this treatment she improved; the discharges only four daily, and painless. After a short time, however, she began to sink; the fever increasing, and tongue becoming dry and red. She was then given the oil of turpentine gtt. x. thrice daily; which, disagreeing with her, was stopped, and iron, with small doses of nitrate of silver and opium, was administered.

March 17th, she entered the hospital; her condition very much as described above; she was much emaciated; abdomen swollen and tympanitic, but very tender on percussion; hectic; tongue dry, rather pale; great debility; frequent semi-fluid clay colored discharges, exceedingly offensive. Could detect no disease of thoracic viscera.

Under the impression that the girl had tubercular dyscrasia, she was placed under the use of cod liver oil f.ʒss. thrice daily, with pil. ferri carb. gr. v. t. d., and iodine ointment to be applied to the abdomen. Some little alteration took place in some of the symptoms, but no marked improvement; her anorexia remained, and the discharges from the bowels were as many as six or eight daily, very offensive. Her tongue remained dry and smooth.

Thinking that the iron was irritating the bowels, it was stopped, and the oil of turpentine prescribed, gtt. x. every three hours.

Under the use of the turpentine the motions were reduced to two or three daily, of a yellow color and less offensive, the tongue became moister, and epithelia formed along the edges. But this apparent improvement did not last long. On the 1st of April,

her abdomen became more swollen, and very tender; her wrists and hands moist and cold; her mouth pinched, and her whole countenance hippocratic; the pulse became weak, frequent and thready; vomiting set in, which creosote seemed to relieve.

She died April 3d.

Sectio Cadaveris, twelve hours after death.

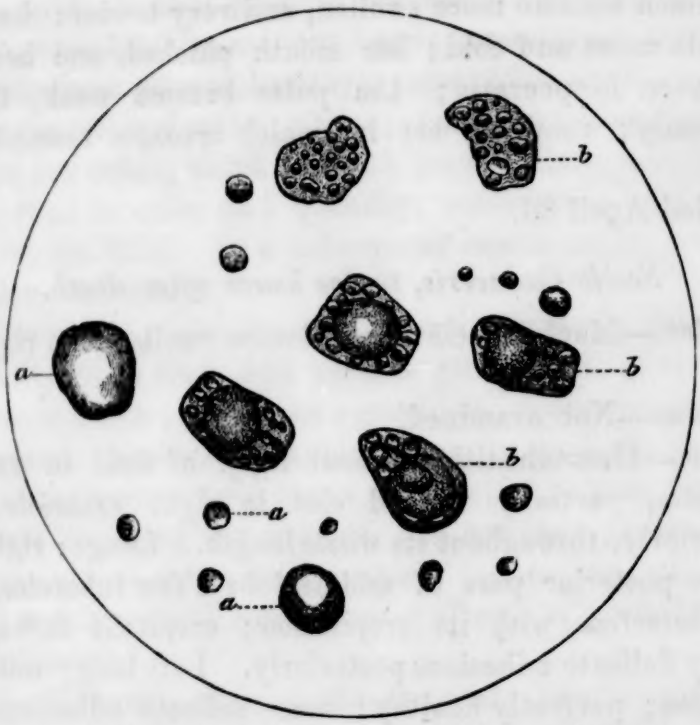
Exterior.—Much emaciated; abdomen swollen; no rigidity of limbs.

Cranium.—Not examined.

Thorax.—Heart healthy; about f.ʒij. of fluid in cavity of pericardium, partially washed clot in right ventricle, aorta pale interiorly, throughout its whole length. Lungs: right, contained in posterior part of middle lobe a few tubercles, which did not interfere with its crepitation; crepitant throughout; some very delicate adhesions posteriorly. Left lung: not a sign of tubercles; perfectly healthy; same delicate adhesions as in right lung, which were easily broken down; a slight deposit of tubercle in costal pleura of left side.

Abdomen.—Cavity contained about a gallon of yellow fluid containing pus and shreds of lymph. Peritoneum—lining of the walls contained tubercle. Liver—adherent to diaphragm above, and to the stomach and other viscera below; it was enlarged more laterally, than in its vertical diameter. The right side had its edges rounded; the left retaining much of the natural, sharp outline. The surface was of a light yellow color, pitted on pressure, and greased the knife; the centre of the lobules of a light brown color; very little blood; peritoneal covering studded with tubercle. Gall bladder empty; the extreme oily condition of this organ is shown by the drawing taken from the microscope. [*See next page.*]

Stomach: externally of a slaty hue; no tubercle on its surface; mucous membrane, through an oversight, not examined. Spleen healthy. Omentum adherent to the walls of abdomen, so that, when I cut into the cavity, I thought at first that I was cutting through the thickened parietes. It was thickened very much by the deposit of tubercle; and indeed looked



a—Free oil globules; *b*—Liver cells containing oil globules.

like a mass of tubercular matter, in some places being an inch thick. Intestines, large and small were glued together, so that it was impossible to separate them; their peritoneal covering studded with tubercle, varying in size from a small pea to a grain of corn; mucous membrane of intestines was much injected; of a dark green color; the solitary glands enlarged; could discover no ulceration of Peyer's patches. Kidneys, large, softer and paler than normal. The microscope showed an excess of oil. Uterus: size normal; body of organ filled with a tubercular mass partially softened. Mesenteric glands filled with tubercle.

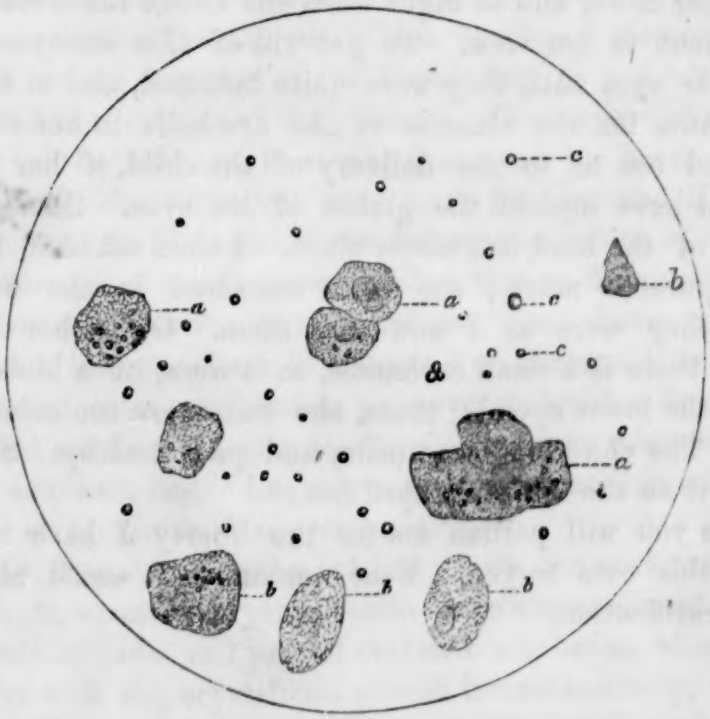
An interesting feature, pathologically, in the preceding case, is the occurrence of the oily liver with the deposit of tubercle. This condition of the liver in phthisis is said by some to be caused by the accumulation of hydro carbon in that organ, from its non-elimination by the diseased lungs. That this explanation is not satisfactory is shown by the observations of Rokitansky, who has remarked, that the occurrence of oily liver is quite as frequent with tubercles deposited in other parts of the body, as in the lung. How well this is proven in the foregoing case; for here we have lungs performing their full office,

and yet, a more oily liver I think has seldom been seen. And going still further, if Dr. C. Handfield Jones' observations are of any weight, we may say that fatty or oily liver is not peculiar to phthisis at all.

In connection with the above remarks, I will briefly notice another case.

John E——, æt 32 years, born in Pennsylvania, of German parents, died in the Pennsylvania hospital of phthisis pulmonalis.

This subject had the right lung, or rather he may be said to have had no lung, but in its place a large cavity, having for its walls the pleura thickened with lardaceous membrane, occupying the upper part of what was the lung, while the lower half consisted of tubercle and fibrous tissue. The left lung contained much tubercle; those in the upper part had commenced softening.



a—Liver cells; *b*—Cells acted on by acetic acid.

Now, notwithstanding this condition of the lungs, we find the liver perfectly healthy; the amount of oil contained in the cell not exceeding that of health.

Case of Monstrosity. By D. M. Hudson, M. D., Bedford Co., Pa.

(Communicated to Prof. F. G. Smith.)

Dear Sir,—A few days ago, in the course of my practice, I was called to see a new-born infant that came into the world without any eye-balls. After I had examined the child, I found it perfect in every other respect. The mother told me the following story: In the latter part of last August, while out with a friend gathering some whortle berries on some waste land, they came across a huge rattle-snake, which first bit their dog and then made battle with them. Much alarmed at this venomous reptile, the mother was seized with a nervousness which lasted during the rest of the day and greater part of the night. For two weeks the snake appeared before her eyes, and was uppermost in her mind, and at night when she awoke the creature was still present to her view. To get rid of this annoyance she rubbed her eyes until they were quite inflamed, and in this way she accounts for the absence of the eye-balls in her child. I questioned her as to the delivery of the child, if her midwife might not have injured the globes of its eyes. She said that nothing of the kind had taken place. I then asked if its eyes had suppurated much; she again answered in the negative, stating they were as I now saw them. On either side of the nose there is a small carbuncle, as it were, of a bluish gray cast, on the lower eyelids; these, she states, are the color of the snake. The child is a large male, and quite healthy. She gave birth to it on the 24th of April last.

I hope you will pardon me for the liberty I have taken in stating this case to you. Your opinion on it would afford me much gratification.

Upon Filtration of the air in connection with Fermentation and Putrefaction. By H. Schröder, and Dr. Th. Von Dusch.

(Translated for the Examiner.)

§1. In the year 1837, Dr. Schwann, of Berlin, communicated a series of experiments, which proved that putrefaction did not occur in a freshly boiled infusion of flesh, and that the vinous fermentation did not take place in a freshly boiled fluid, previously susceptible to fermentation, if the air that was suffered to enter had been first exposed to a red heat. It was proved by these experiments, that it is not the oxygen, at least not it alone, that causes the vinous fermentation, the putrefaction of an infusion of flesh, or even the formation of mould and infusoria, but a substance contained in the atmosphere and destroyed by heat.

Schwann considered it probable that fermentation and putrefaction were induced by sporules of microscopical cryptogami and infusoria, contained in the air, which developed themselves and increased at the expense of the fermenting or putrefying substance, and thus continued the process. These sporules or germs existing in the air, are, however, destroyed by heat. Similar experiments with like results were made by Ure and Helmholz.

§2. Regaud de l'Isle has shown in his examination of the miasmatic influences of the Pontine marshes, that an interposing wood is a protection from the noxious effects,* and Becquerel says, "Une forét interposeé sur le passage d'un courant d'air humide, chargé de miasmes pestilentiels, prèserve quelquefois de ses effets tout ce qui est derriére elle, tandis que la partie découverte est exposeé aux maladies. Les arbres tamisent donc l'air infecté, et l'epinent en lui énvelant ses miasmes."†

Finally, Löwel communicated last year a series of remarkable experiments, upon the crystallization of an oversaturated solution of sulphate of soda, and proved that such a solution, which, when in contact with air, crystallises almost instantaneously, does not crystallise if the air has been previously filtered through a layer of cotton.

§3. The facts above mentioned, being all that is known with

*Bibl. Univers. vol. xiii.

†Compt. Rend. hebd. xxxvi. 12.

regard to fermentation and putrefaction, in connection with the filtration of air, led one of us in January, 1853, to the supposition, that a freshly boiled organic substance, in contact only with air properly filtered, would be protected from fermentation or decomposition. In order to test this supposition, we performed the following experiments.

§4. Cotton was selected as a means of filtration, because it is known that it retains upon its surface infectious diseases, and is even capable of conveying them to a distance.

The apparatus used for filtering the air, consisted of a tube, about 1 inch in diameter and 20 inches in length, filled with raw cotton, moderately compressed; both ends were closed with waxed corks, through one of which was passed a short, open glass tube about ¼ inch in diameter; the other end was connected by a tube of similar diameter bent at right angles, with the flask containing the meat or infusion to be experimented upon. The flask itself was connected by a tube of the same diameter, with a gasometer or air-tight vessel holding about 1 cubic foot of water, and provided with a discharge cock at the bottom, and another cock to intercept the communication between it and the flask; besides an opening for introducing water, which could be perfectly closed. The joints all being air-tight, it is evident that as the water ran out of the gasometer, fresh air must enter through the cotton and the flask to replace it. When all was in order, the discharge cock was so regulated that the water could escape in drops only, and the air constantly passed through the apparatus in proportionate amount. Before being put into the glass tube, the cotton was heated in a water-bath, and the contents of the flask in all the experiments were brought to ebullition, which was continued until the tubes were heated up to the part where the cotton commenced.

§5. The first experiment was commenced on the 9th of February, 1853. Two flasks, placed side by side, each containing meat, and the freshly boiled decoction thereof, were made use of. One vessel was connected with the filtering apparatus described above, the other was left open. The meat and the decoction in the open flask, began in the second week to develop an intolerable odor of putrefaction, so that it was necessary to remove it from the laboratory.

On the 6th of March, we opened the other flask, through which, during the whole time—that is during 23 days and nights—filtered air had been passed. The appearance of its contents was entirely unchanged. There was no trace of odor, but upon being heated, the pure characteristic smell of fresh unseasoned broth was developed.

§6. The experiment was repeated in a warmer season of the year, 20th of April.

a. We placed some meat in water, as described in §4. The treatment was the same as in §5, except that the current of air was only passed through during the day, and the vessel closed at night.

b. Beside this, was placed in an open flask, fresh meat boiled in water.

c. At the same time, a flask containing similarly prepared meat was closed with a waxed cork, through which was inserted a glass tube about 12 inches in length, and 1 line in diameter, the object being to retard the entrance of air.

d. In the fourth flask, we put meat boiled in water, and closed with a loose stopper of cotton, over which a large padding of cotton was placed, fastened to the neck of the flask by a silken thread. Upon the cooling of the flask, the fresh air entering must necessarily be filtered in passing through the cotton.

In the second week, the meat in the open flask (*b.*) underwent stinking putrefaction, and was obliged to be removed from the laboratory.

On the 10th day, a thick growth of mould was observed in the flask with the narrow glass tube, (*c.*) At the expiration of 19 days, upon being opened, only a mouldy smell was perceived, not the odor of putrefied meat.

The two flasks, (*a.* and *d.*) through which filtered air alone had been passed, were opened on the 14th of May, at the expiration of 24 days; no mould formation or any striking change of substance was perceived; a whitish appearance was observed in some parts of the meat, which had not been noticed at least by us before.

The substance in both flasks was found, upon opening, to be without odor; upon being heated, the unchanged smell of fresh broth was developed; the taste was that of fresh unseasoned

broth. Like fresh broth, it reacted slightly acid. The distillate of a part of this, was entirely neutral.

By these experiments it is therefore established, *that meat, freshly boiled in water, and freshly boiled broth, remain for several weeks completely unchanged, if only such air as has been previously filtered through cotton is suffered to enter.*

§7. On the 14th of May we took from Grohe's vinegar manufactory of this place, some freshly boiled sweet malt-wort, to which some hops had been added. It smelt and looked like beer wort, tasted sweet, and reacted only slightly acid. This wort was put in the flask connecting with the filtering apparatus, and treated for 23 days, as described in §4. In the last eight days a cubic foot of air was daily drawn rapidly through, so that a visible depression was caused upon the surface of the liquid. An open flask was at the same time placed beside it and filled with freshly boiled wort. After eight days the formation of mould commenced in the open flask; the liquid became also cloudy, whilst that in contact with the filtered air was perfectly clear, and remained free from mould. On the 6th of June, 23 days after, we opened the flask; the liquid was as clear as at the beginning of the experiment, and developed upon being heated the odor of unchanged wort. The taste was sweet and unaltered, and the reaction slightly acid, as before the experiment. Examined with Steinhold's beer test, we obtained 0. p. c. of alcohol, and 7.9 p. c. of extract of malt. We had, previously, neglected to make a determination of the value of the liquor experimented on. We could only, therefore, compare it with a new sample of fresh wort, taken from the same manufactory. This gave with Steinhold's test, 0. p. c. of alcohol, and 7.7 p. c. of extract of malt, therefore of the same value, excepting the slight concentration of the first fluid by evaporation during the experiment. *We believed to have established by these experiments, that at the temperature of May and June of this year, a sweet fermentable wort will remain entirely unchanged for weeks, if only such air has access to it as has been previously filtered through cotton.*

§8. With the new sample of wort above mentioned, we commenced on the 6th of June another experiment. We wished to see, as a farther check upon the experiment, if upon the removal of the cotton from the filtration tube, (the treatment other-

wise being the same as in §4,) the contents of the flask would remain *unchanged*. An open flask was again placed beside it. The formation of mould commenced in the latter, within the first week, but not until after 12 days in the one connected with the tubes. It commenced with a rapidly growing speck of mould, exactly on the spot where the current of air came in contact with the surface of the liquid. The liquids in both flasks became cloudy. It was, therefore, evident that protection from these changes could only be found in filtering the air through cotton.

§9. It was now of interest to ascertain, whether under like circumstances, boiled fresh milk would remain unaltered, or whether it would curdle or putrefy. But all the experiments which we made in the months of June and July, gave only *negative* results. The milk coagulated quite as rapidly in filtered, as in open air; and in every case, the odor of putrefying casein was developed, as soon with the former as with the latter. The formation of mould was, however, entirely prevented by the filtration of the air.

This negative result reminded us of a similar one, obtained by one of us, in connection with L. Gmelin, in 1846, in regard to the behaviour of milk, when placed in contact with a large amount of confined air previously heated.

Negative results were also obtained in all experiments with fresh meat that was heated in a water-bath, first being placed in a flask without the addition of water; the flask while yet hot, was closed as in §6 *d.*, with a stopper of cotton, and the neck surrounded by a thick padding of the same material. The meat became offensive, as quickly as in the open air or in a flask, which was corked as in §6. *c.* communicating with the air only through a long narrow tube. The only difference was, that the greenish-brown liquid, that in the open flask surrounded the putrefying pieces of meat, was observed under the microscope to be alive with infusoria, with Monas termo or at other times with Fibrio lineola; whilst in the same liquor that putrefied in filtered air, Fibrio lineola decidedly did not appear, and even Monas termo could not be recognized with certainty; no other infusoria were present. We believe, therefore, that in all these experiments, the meat had not been sufficiently heated to its centre, and that the experiment should be repeated in another manner.

§10. On the 18th of July, unfortunately the hottest season of the year, we again boiled meat in water, and while hot, corked it, and padded it over with cotton, as in §6 *d.*; a test fluid in an open flask beside it, showed, on the 22d of July, the odor of putrefaction, and on the 23d, a species of large infusoria could be recognized under the microscope, which we were not able to determine. They were globules or cells of the size of yeast globules, in constant voluntary motion, drawing themselves together like balls, and then stretching themselves out; we were, however, not able to perceive any further organization.

Upon the liquor that was under the cotton, we perceived a kind of fat skin, that covered the whole surface and gradually thickened. In the third week, the liquid acquired a reddish color; and upon being opened on the 15th of August, gave the odor of stinking fat, which, however, upon being warmed, was mixed with the odor of fresh broth.

We feel obliged to mention this experiment, because we do not consider ourselves justified in withholding it; not because we think any particular stress should be laid upon it; conclusions must not be drawn from a single experiment of this kind. Our idea is, that the meat in question, had not been boiled long enough, for the boiling had been stopped as soon as the liquid foamed up, so that probably all the serum in the interior of the meat was not coagulated. It is also very possible that from the high temperature at that time, the fat became rancid, which might have taken place even after boiling a long time. This can only be determined by further experiments; but even in this experiment, made during the hottest weather, putrefaction did not occur within 28 days.

§11. Although we believe that we have obtained from these experiments decidedly positive results, yet they should by no means be considered as concluded.

It appears then settled that there is a spontaneous decomposition of organic substances, as the putrefaction, of meat without water,—of the casein of milk—as well as the transformation of the sugar of milk in the milk into lactic acid, that requires for its commencement only the oxygen of the air, and that there are other phenomena of fermentation and putrefaction, which are improperly placed in the same category; viz: the fermentation of malt wort,

and the putrefaction of meat under broth, which require for their commencement, beside the oxygen, some unknown admixture in the atmospheric air; which, according to Schwann's experiments, is destroyed by heat, and according to ours, removed by filtration through cotton. It will be a problem for future experiments, to divide into two classes those phenomena, which are now united under the general idea of fermentation and putrefaction. Our attention hereafter will be particularly devoted to certain simple organic combinations, viz: pure albumen, pure fibrin, casein free from fat, &c. &c.

§12. We have as yet only made use of cotton, as a means of filtration. It will be the object of future experiments to try a number of other substances for this purpose. We shall first use coal, sulphuret of lead, pumice stone, powdered glass, gypsum, &c. &c.

It is yet to be investigated, whether certain filtering substances will not remove the germs of one species of putrefaction and fermentation, permitting those of another to pass through, which in its turn may be removed by some other filtering medium; thus dividing the filtering substances into different classes.

Since there is still so much that remains undecided in an experimental way, we at present withhold all theoretical deductions from our researches.

The experiments mentioned above, will require from their nature, so long a lapse of time, that we do not think it right to withhold any longer from the public, the positive results already obtained. H. P.

Manheim, Dec. 6th, 1853. *Leibig's Annalen, Feb.* 1854.

Further Observations on the Existence of Cellulose in Man.

By R. VIRCHOW. (Virchow's Archiv., VI. p. 269.)

(Continued from May Number of the Examiner.)

Since my first communication on the presence of cellulose in the nervous centres, I have had repeated opportunities of verifying my observations. Prof. Rokitansky, too, has had the kindness to communicate to me, that he has satisfied himself of the accuracy of my statements with regard to the bodies found in the ependyma. He adds further, that he had previously met with similar bodies in an atrophied optic nerve, and in the gray-

ish transparent fluid, which, when effused between the columns of the spinal cord, or of the medulla oblongata, causes atrophy of the medullary substance; he has also seen them repeatedly, and of large size, in rachitic bones. He was, of course, at that period not able to obtain the characteristic reaction, but he mentions, that these bodies always seemed remarkable to him on account of their different appearance from other laminated bodies, and of their dissolution when heated in the fluid containing them, whether pure or diluted with water. Their ready solubility in ether reminded him of fat, but the ease with which water dissolved them, rendered their oleaginous nature improbable. He goes on to state that the process of their dissolution differs to a certain extent from that of amylum-corpuscles. They swell up like these, but do not crack, when compressed, and when expanded to a certain size, they suddenly disappear. In all the tissues in which he found them, they were imbedded in a stroma of fibrous tissue.

I mention these interesting statements, as well as those just received from Prof. Luschka,* with great pleasure, for they may form starting points for future researches. In all probability, our knowledge of the prevalence of these bodies will be gradually increased. I am myself at present able to connect them with an affection but little understoood; a disease of the spleen, comparatively unknown, and which, though not frequent, is by no means a rare affection. It is mentioned as "lardaceous" or "waxy" spleen, (Wachsmilz) and is mainly dependant on a peculiar degeneration of the Malpighian follicles. Whilst the whole spleen increases in size and firmness, and becomes at the same time more anæmic, we find in the external portions of the contents of the follicles in question, a homogeneous, transparent, partly colored, partly grayish or yellowish zone, which increases until the whole contents of the follicle have degenerated into a slightly prominent corpuscle, of larger size than the original follicle, and exhibiting in a transverse section a viscid gelatinous appearance. Already Christensen (Copenh. Ugeskrift 1854, N. 8, or Oppenheim's Zeitschrift 1845, Sept.) compared these corpuscles to the granules of sago, seen

* Prof. Luschka discovered similar bodies in the ganglion of Gasser.—Tr.

swimming in soup, by no means a bad comparison. In the interior of these "gelatinous granules" we generally observe a white centre, the unaltered remains of the contents of the follicles.

I formerly considered these corpuscles as colloid, (see Vol. I. of this Archiv.) for I found that they were rendered pale by acetic acid, and that the addition of the ferrocyanuret of potassium produced on them a granular precipitate. Sulphuric acid, especially if hot, colored these bodies yellow, and the subsequent addition of ammonia produced the peculiar orange bluish-red color belonging to the salts of xantho-proteic acid. It seemed, therefore, reasonable to consider them either a fibrinous exudation, or an albuminous degeneration. But the exact relation of this to the other elementary degenerations was always a matter of doubt to me, (see Vol. IV. of this Archiv.) Recently I had occasion to examine a spleen thus diseased, and an accurate investigation of these little granules reminded me strongly of the corpora amylacea of the brain. They have not, it is true, their concentrically laminated appearance, but they possess the same pale, slightly opaque yet shining, and apparently soft structure. They are generally round or slightly angular, mostly homogeneous, and larger than the usual lymph corpuscles in the interior of the follicles. They lie closely together, and in laminæ, but so arranged, that the addition of sulphuric acid brings unchanged nuclei into view, evidently belonging to a fine intermediate network. On adding a watery solution of iodine, an intense yellowish red color, such as I had never before seen, was observable, and this on the addition of sulphuric acid, changed into a deep violet. The reaction was quicker than in the ependyma corpuscles; on allowing much sulphuric acid to act, a dark brownish red was produced; a little acid made the blue or violet color very perceptible. The duration of the color was in either case but temporary. The blue mass gradually became of a lighter hue, and left ultimately but a simple yellowish appearance. The great softness of these bodies seemed, therefore, to accelerate not only the appearance, but the disappearance of the color.

What I had found by a micro-chemical examination, was easily verified by an analysis on a larger scale. Some of the bodies taken out of the tissue of the spleen, and treated with

iodine and sulphuric acid, allowed the reaction to be well studied, even with the unassisted eye.

As this condition of the spleen is not frequently enough met with here, to make it advisable to wait for fresh specimens, I examined such as had been kept in alcohol in our pathological collection, and found that even in those that had been thus preserved for years, the reaction was readily obtained, although not with the same purity of color, observed in recent preparations. I discovered further, another important property, which clearly demonstrates the peculiar composition of these bodies, viz., the length of time they are able to withstand decomposition. I wished to try the experiment of isolating these granules by a continued maceration, similar to the isolation of the granules in the preparation of starch, and, for this purpose, exposed the spleen to a steadily flowing current of water. This has acted on it now for three weeks, and the granules are as yet perfectly preserved. The longer they have been subjected to the current of water, the more decidedly is the reaction exhibited, so that I am now able to produce in the corpuscles a much purer and more distinct blue, than I have hitherto succeeded in obtaining. If by this process we should be able to isolate these bodies, enough of material can thus be collected for a more complete chemical investigation, and this alone would make the discovery of this method valuable. But the granules may be obtained, although not as pure, without the aid of this process, for they are readily isolated from the surrounding tissues. We will soon, therefore, I trust be able to determine whether they are devoid of nitrogen, or if they contain albuminous elements, as the formation of xantho-proteic acid seems to indicate. These particles, it is true, might be derived from the surrounding tissue or fluid; and this is not improbable, if we consider the action of acetic acid, and of ferrocyanuret of potassium on them; since in follicles thus treated, the deposit takes place, evidently, in the interstitial tissue, and not on their surface. Yet the possibility of their corpuscular origin cannot be denied, as they are evidently derived from nitrogenized substances.

To Schrant (Prijisverhandeling orer de goed-en kroaadaardige gezwellen Amsterdam, 1851, p. 291) belongs the credit of having been the first to draw attention to the origin of these bodies.

For although he wrongly denominates the disease *waxy* or *colloid* spleen, his description and drawings of the corpuscles are quite accurate. It is by a gradual transformation of the lymph corpuscles, generally contained in the follicles of the spleen, that these bodies are formed; the most external layers becoming at first homogeneous, and the whole corpuscle solid. Thus though in this disease we have not, as supposed, a colloid cell-metamorphosis, we are justified in speaking of it as a *cellulose metamorphosis of cells.*

How prevalent this metamorphosis, it is at present difficult to determine. Wedl (Grundzüge der Pathologischen Histologie) figures similar laminated colloid corpuscles, taken from the intermuscular tissue of an hypertrophied heart. Schrant (Tijdschrift der Nederl. Maatschapheiy, 1852, July, p. 260, fig. iv.) has drawn concentrically laminated colloid corpuscles from the optic nerve of an amaurotic patient. Fresh investigations are required to prove the real nature of these bodies. I have examined recently the so-called colloid of the thyroid gland, of the ovaries, and kidney, also the elements of intervertebral cartilage, and several lardaceous livers, but in vain; the corpuscles they contained were not cellulose-corpuscles. The term colloid must, however, be used with greater caution. After having separated from it the mucous tissue, (Schlmeingewebe) the cellulose, and certain albuminous masses, such as seen in the prostate gland, we will perhaps be able to find further distinctions.

As cellulose has thus been found in an important pathological process, it might not be inadvisable to say a few words of the peculiar disease of the spleen in which it occurs. Christensen mentions "waxy spleen" in connection with albuminuria, complicated with hydropic effusion and Bright's disease. This is indeed very frequent. This condition of the spleen is generally attended with a cachectic state of the system of long duration, and with disease of the liver and kidney. I have most frequently seen it accompanying chronic ulcerative processes, as in caries, tuberculosis, and dysenteric affections of the intestines, but also in the cachectic condition of the system which occurs with nephritis after scarlet fever. It appears as if this were always followed by a permanent alteration in the structure of the spleen, but I must confess that this is to me a very obscure point. DAC.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

Report of the Hospital at Ningpo for 1852*; under the Medical Missionary Society in China.* By DANIEL J. MACGOWEN, M. D. Canton. 1852.

The author of this interesting report, is an American Missionary physician, stationed at Ningpo, China, under the patronage of the Baptist Missionary Union of the United States. While his ostensible office is to preach the Gospel to the nations of China, with the hope of remedying their spiritual condition, he is ardently devoted to the science of medicine, and in his zeal and benevolence to do good, the promptings of his nature have led him to devote a portion of his time to the relief of the bodily ailments of the people among whom he labors. These services have not only been highly appreciated but already extensively useful. Hitherto, his reports have been made through the proceedings of the society at Hong Kong, but hereafter, by a new arrangement, they will appear in a separate form.

The report regrets the limited means of the Society, which do not enable them to furnish provision for the treatment of in-door patients; all they do and all they contemplate at present, is through a Dispensary arrangement. In this way, however, they have rendered timely aid during the year to "seven thousand nine hundred and fifty six" persons, among "the sick poor of the city and environs." The principal diseases treated were "Opthalmia" and "Cutaneous affections," which are exceedingly prevalent in China; of the former there were 3856, of the latter 1989—in all, over 70 per cent of the whole number of cases under treatment.

In the autumn of 1848 Rubeola appeared epidemically in Ningpo, and throughout that province, but not in a malignant form; it also "prevailed in the maritime districts of the east coast of China and throughout the whole Pacific coast," and in some places was particularly fatal. In the Russian colonies, great numbers were carried off. In a periodical, "The Friend," printed at Honolulu in the Sandwich Islands, a Russian Captain reports thus: "some of our Islands in the Alsatian chain lost most of their population. In Sitka, amongst a population of 600,

we had in one month eighty deaths, if not more." At the Sandwich islands it was also very destructive among the natives. In concluding this subject the report says, "it is remarkable, that whilst Rubeola was traversing this region of the earth, from the tropic of cancer to the frigid zone, the cholera was pursuing a western course, from the Volga to the Mississippi."

In 1852, like many other countries, this province was visited by cholera. As the report presents a very interesting account of this epidemic, as well the novel theory of its pathology and mode of treating it, as taught by the Chinese doctors, wé prefer to give it in the language of Dr. Macgowen himself:

"Finally that modern scourge, 'whose symptoms begin with death,' cholera asphyxia, has been in our midst. In its eastern march this disease reached China through the Straits in 1820. During the summer of that and the following year, Ningpo, like other portions of the empire, suffered severely. Since the last named period, it has not prevailed epidemically, though few years pass by without the occurrence of sporadic cases. On its reappearance this autumn, it was instantly recognized as the *kioh-kin-tiáu* or the disease which 'contracts the tendons of the leg,' the name given to cholera soon after it was first observed. Its appearance occasioned but little alarm or excitement. A short time before its disappearance, the gods were carried in procession through the streets, and propitiatory offerings made in several places.

There was one gratifying circumstance connected with the prevalence of the cholera, which I here mention with much pleasure. Great pains were taken by benevolent persons to make public those remedies which were considered best adapted to arrest the disease in persons attacked. Placards were posted in every quarter, giving directions for the treatment of the malady in its different phases. All recommended substantially the same mode of treatment, which seems to have been taken from a small monograph on cholera by a physician of Kiáhing, Sü Tsz'mí. Dr. Sü states that on the first appearance of the disease, medical men took it for ordinary cholera, and treating it accordingly, failed to save one in a hundred of their patients; but observing that the disease arose from derangement of the three *ying* (stomach, lungs, and kidney,) he reversed the practice, and employed remedies for warming or stimulating the vessels. He regarded the disease to arise from 'morbific cold,' disturbing the harmony naturally subsisting between the dual powers of the system. His professional brethren contended that 'accumulated heat' destroyed the equilibrium existing between these two powers, and whilst he relied on stimulants, the others resorted to cooling remedies. Our author's system of course prevailed, for though it often failed to cure, it never killed the patient, which the rival system could not fail to do.

To impart vital energy and warmth to the body, the juice of fresh

ginger was given, and to this pungent stimulant, various aromatics and bitters were added. Ginger and ginseng entered into every formula employed, but it was generally stated that the latter being expensive, might be dispensed with. As a preliminary step, sternutatories were employed, and if the patient could be made to sneeze, he was considered to be in a more favorable condition than if insensible to such stimulants. Counter-irritants also were resorted to, composed of salt and garlic, which, with moxa, were applied over the abdomen, and for the same purpose foot-stoves were used for the extremities. The feet and legs also were rubbed and shampooed. Thus, despite their fanciful theories, Chinese physicians pursued the same therapeutic course, which in the West have been found most efficacious. Some attached considerable importance to acupuncture, in dangerous cases piercing the tips of the tongue, fingers, and toes, but particularly the popliteal space. It was stated that the tendon in that place would present a livid appearance for the space of an inch, if it were a case of pure cholera. A silver needle was to be thrust to the depth of the eighth of an inch, and left in during the space of time occupied in six inspirations, and the dark blood which would flow from the incision would tend to restore the equilibrium of the dual powers.

By relying on such means, native practitioners afforded relief to many patients, but they were powerless when attempting to treat the consecutive fever, and hence the mortality was very great. The cases which came under my observation presented all the marks of Indian cholera in a most striking manner; vomiting and purging of a congee-like fluid, painful cramps, low hoarse voice, livid skin, rapid prostration, sunken eyes, restlessness, a shriveled appearance of the whole body, cold perspirations, and finally collapse. How far the disease has extended this season in China, it is impossible at present to ascertain. It prevailed at Hángchau several weeks before it reached the prefecture of Ningpo. Somewhat later it is said to have been seen in the neighborhood of Shánghái. It is remarkable that the villages of the plain of Ningpo suffered most, affording another evidence that in this part of China, at least, the cities are the most healthy portions of the land. The fevers so common here, whether intermittent, remittent, or typhus, are far more frequently met with in the rural districts, than in the cities. As regards my patients suffering from these diseases, above eighty per cent. have been countrymen and villagers, much of this may be owing, perhaps, to the greater destitution of the suburban population, which impels them to apply to me for relief, but it is mainly owing to the less salubrious state of the country.

The filthy condition of the city, its stagnant canals, exposure of nameless ordures, the number of dead left in coffins above ground in vacant spaces, would seem to render this like other Chinese towns the very focus of malaria; but while this state of things is unfavorable to longevity, it has not, so far as observation extends, caused them to be peculiarly obnoxious to epidemics. In the cities, drainage is more perfect than in the country; and citizens possess a larger share of domes-

tic comfort and better means of subsistence than the inhabitants of secluded places. Generally speaking, the most salubrious sites are those immediately adjacent to the cities, and yet sufficiently removed from fields and gardens."

Small Pox, it appears, has not been unfrequent at Ningpo. Little attention having been given to vaccination, while at Canton, it has been largely practiced.

The most animating portion of this report, however, is that which refers to the treatment and cure of those Chinese who have been addicted to the fascinating yet destructive vice of smoking opium; many hundreds of whom the report tells us, are living witnesses of his success, in the means employed for their relief. Not a few of these, the doctor says, "are of several years standing; men too, who are occupied all day in labor, requiring great muscular activity, and from whom every vestige of the characteristic features of the opium victim have been effaced. Some whose vital powers were nearly exhausted, are now stalwart chair-bearers, and once more in the enjoyment of existence."

It is, however, only among the more resolute, and those who have become outcasts from society, and beggared by the impoverishing vice, that the rigid measures adopted have been triumphant. No anodyne is substituted by Dr. Macgowen for the deprivationof the fascinating stimulus, except Dover's powders —which is only prescribed to check the wasting diarrhœa which invariably follows abstinence from opium in the habitual smoker. Native practitioners attempt to cure by opiates in graduated doses, but their subjects are liable to relapses, when, it is said their condition is more hopeless than ever.

This part of the report would have been rendered far more interesting and profitable to the medical reader, if Dr. Macgowen had given the particulars of his manner of treating these opium victims. He speaks of "the stringent conditions with which they are made to comply," of the agony they endure, and that during this period "they are sustained by various stimulants," but what these stimulants are, or the stringent conditions required of them in order to their reception as patients or the length of time required to effect a cure, we are left to conjecture.

It is to be hoped, however, that the intelligent author of this report, will hereafter give to the profession a succinct account of his method of treating a disease, national in its character and

threatening to ruin both state and people. Alluding to the tardiness with which the science of surgery advances, the report goes on to say:

"In operative surgery with the exception of the ophthalmic department, little has been accomplished. Cases requiring capital operations are rarely met with, and there exists, moreover, a greater repugnance to the knife in this part of China, than at Canton. Tumors are comparatively uncommon. The greater part of operations on the eyes have been for entropion, which is remarkably prevalent."

Gunpowder injuries are spoken of, as of frequent occurrence, the result of carelessness and awkardness, in their pyrotechnic amusements and in their military exercises. One interesting case is named where a poor fellow, already a cripple, dragged himself near to a perpendicular iron tube containing a rocket which had failed to go off. Looking into the tube the rocket exploded, destroying both his eyes, carrying away part of his forehead and destroying a portion of the brain. From this severe injury the man recovered without having his mental faculties impaired.

In conclusion, the report states that "a prominent object of professional pursuit here has been the instruction of native practitioners and students in anatomy and the sciences of the healing art. Heretofore this has been done to a limited extent only, owing to the want of a lecture room. The rooms of Moon Lake College have been placed at my service, and have been occasionally employed for delivering astronomical lectures; but even for this purpose it is ill adapted. It was impossible to exercise any control over the admission of spectators."

We are glad of an opportunity to learn even a little of the comparatively unknown system of medicine in China. The subjects treated of in this report deserve a more extended investigation, and we hope that the author, who is a man of science, as opportunities are afforded him, may have the disposition to complete the work he has with much earnestness commenced, and not only make "the benefits of the healing art more extensive and effective than heretofore" in China, but add something to the medical literature of the day by his physiological and pathological researches. W. J.

Types of Mankind: or Ethnological Researches based upon the ancient Monuments, Paintings, Sculptures and Crania of Races; and upon their natural, geographical, philological and biblical history; illustrated by selections from the inedited papers of SAMUEL GEORGE MORTON, M. D., late President of the Academy of Natural Sciences at* Philadelphia, and by additional contributions from Prof. L. AGASSIZ, LL. D., W. USHER, M. D., and Prof. H. S. PATTERSON, M. D. By J. C. NOTT, M. D. of Mobile, Alabama, and GEO. R. GLIDDON, formerly U. S. Consul at Cairo. 8vo. pp. 738. Lippincott, Grambo & Co. Philadelphia, 1854.

This work, after the preface, opens with a memoir of the late Dr. Samuel George Morton, written under the influence of an affectionate recollection of the subject, by Henry S. Patterson, M. D. This notice of Dr. Morton, has reference chiefly to his ethnological studies, but does not fail to mention his labors in various departments of learning. It contains some observations touching Dr. Morton's opinions, not stated in the biographical notices previously published; but beyond this, Dr. Patterson has not added any thing to our knowledge of the public life of our late much esteemed fellow-citizen. The result of Dr. Morton's ethnological studies, was a conviction that the human race is not the offspring of a single pair, but of several pairs; an opinion of great importance, whether considered in relation to its social, philosophical or religious relations. It is not within the limits we have prescribed for ourselves, to discuss this or any other opinion stated or advocated in the work before us.

Dr. Morton had few competitors in the field of ethnology on this side of the Atlantic, and is admitted to have been a leader among the most distinguished in this department of knowledge. A reference to his published works, and the unrivalled collection of crania made by him, will prove him to have been a zealous, careful and accurate student, and assure us that his conclusions are entitled to profound respect. The principal works of Dr. Morton on ethnological subjects, are his "Crania Americana," published October, 1839, and his "Crania Ægyptiaca," which consists of essays read before the American Philo-

* The title of the Academy should be "the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia."—ED.

sophical Society, in the years 1842 and 1843, and published in a volume in 1844.

This biographical notice of Dr. Morton is followed by an essay of twenty pages, entitled, "Sketch of the natural provinces of the animal world, and their relation to the different types of man," By Louis Agassiz; in which it is alleged that not only the several races of men, but all the groups of animals and plants, constituting distinct faunæ and floræ had distinct and separate origins, one for each of the eight realms, under which all animals are locally classed. They are the 1. Arctic; 2. Asiatic; 3. European; 4. American; 5. African; 6. East Indian or Malayan; 7. Australian, and 8. Polynesian realms. The sketch is accompanied by a map, and pictorial illustration representing the fauna of each realm, as far as may be, by figures of animals of the class mammalia, with a portrait of a man of each realm at the head of each series. This picture has the merit of having been composed or drawn in the Library of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, under the eye of Mr. Gliddon; it has all the value this circumstance can give to such an effort.

Next follows an introduction by J. C. Nott, M. D., of a dozen pages, in which Ethnology is defined; and Mr. Pritchard and the Book of Genesis are very fiercely assailed. Chapter I. is on the "Geographical distribution of animals, and the races of men." Chapter II. is devoted to general remarks on types of mankind. The terms type and species, are regarded as synonymous,and Dr. Morton's definition ofspecies—"a primordial organic form,"—is accepted, but it is not very well determined what circumstances are included in the term form; is color necessarily an element of specific characteristics? If color alone is enough to distinguish species, it might be urged by over-zealous naturalists, those who are distinguished by a prurience for making and describing new species, that white cats are not of the same species as black cats, although of the same genus.

It is not necessary to state the contents of the several chapters.

The object of the work is to prove that the population of the earth is not derived from a single pair, as stated in the Book of Genesis, and admitted by Cuvier and other naturalists of great learning. Cuvier says,—"Although the promiscuous intercourse of the human species, which produces individuals capable of propagation, would seem to *demonstrate* its unity, certain hereditary

peculiarities of conformation are observed, which constitute what are termed *races.*" But Cuvier regarded these "hereditary peculiarities," not as constituting difference of species, but only varieties of the same species. There are certain peculiarities, very remarkable in themselves, which run through families, such as supernumerary figures, toes, &c., but these are not considered to be specific characteristics. Nor is size in itself, without anatomical difference, enough to constitute species.

The value of a work of this kind, depends very much upon the nature of the evidence, and the character of the witnessess brought forward to sustain the broad assertions made by its authors. Mr. Agassiz is distinguished by his extended learning in all the departments of Natural History, but a plain man needs something more, even from him, than assertion, to induce him to abandon belief in the Mosaic account of the creation. His paper is a mere generalization of his notions, in the shape of assertion.

Dr. Morton rests his belief chiefly upon the difference of cubic capacity in the skulls of the inhabitants of different regions of the earth, who existed at different periods. He has drawn all his inferences from the measurement of at most 900 human skulls, of all nations and races, ancient and modern, living and extinct. The data these furnish are certainly interesting, and afford remarkable degrees of comparison; but it may well be doubted whether they are enough for a demonstrated conclusion. What might be the character, for instance, of the present inhabitants of Philadelphia, if it should be deduced two hundred or a thousand years hence, by some learned Japanese or denizen of some other far off region, after measuring a hundred and fifty skulls taken, hap-hazard, from the cemetery at Laurel Hill, or any other burial place of the city or county? Yet, in some instances, forty or even fewer skulls have been enough to furnish Dr. Morton with satisfactory conclusions, as to the cranial characteristics of a nation.

Another kind of evidence adduced is found in the rude effigies of ancient tombs. The ethnologists implicitly rely upon the accuracy of the cranial portraiture in figures, which, in almost every respect, are marvellously inaccurate in their anatomical representations of different parts of the body. As an illustration, look at figures 163 and 164, page 248, and believe, if possible, that such shoulders, bodies or extremities belonged to yellow,

black or white races at any period of the world's history? What would be our opinion of a philosopher who would take any portrait in any historical picture of modern times, as a means of studying the phrenological developments of the person represented? Yet, one of our ethnologists goes further than this. Speaking of the "Asiatic conquests of Ramses II," "within the fourteenth century, B. C." Dr. Nott says, p. 158, "Mr. Birch's detailed account of this important historical document is accompanied by colored drawings, in which the victories of that monarch over various Asiatic and African races are represented with amazing truthfulness and spirit." Dr. Nott surely should indicate how he knows said representations to be truthful. It is not believed by philosophers generally that poets, painters and sculptors are the most accurate or the most reliable witnesses to establish absolute fact, or even historical truth, which, of the varieties of truth, is not the most trustworthy in scientific or physical investigations.

It is doubtful whether the following assertion of Dr. Nott will bear the test of scrutiny: "Not an individual breathes, in whose veins flows blood acknowledged to be 'royal,' but traces his or her genealogy to this Norman colossus, William the Conqueror!" If this be true absolutely, it might serve in the argument for the unity of the origin of the human race; if this William be in fact the sole progenitor of all living kings and princes of Christendom who are not usurpers; if he be the original fountain of all legitimate royalty, why not assign, with equal propriety, all humanity to a single pair, for there are not greater differences among Christian kings and princes than between the races of men.

As another specimen of deduction and creation of facts, if such an expression can be tolerated, take the following: "From an investigation of the successive growths of the cypress forests around that city, [New Orleans,] the stumps of which are still found *at different depths, directly overlying each other;* [a monstrous overlying it must be, too,] from the great size and age of these trees, and from the remains of Indian bones and pottery found below the roots of some of these stumps, he [Dr. Dowler] arrives at the following conclusion: 'From these data it appears that the human race existed in the delta [of the Mississippi] more than 57,000 years ago; and that ten subterranean forests, and

the one now growing, will show that an exhuberant flora existed in Louisiana more than 100,000 years anterior to these evidences of man's existence.'"

Whether this "conclusion" has been a result of the Baconian method of induction, and is better vouched for than the Mosaic history and chronology, is a question we need not now waste time to discuss.

The inedited manuscript of the late Dr. Morton occupies 28 pages of the volume. The tone of the following extract is so entirely opposite to anything expressed by the authors of the work, dedicated to his memory, that it is worthy of special attention.

Dr. Morton says, "We earnestly maintain that the preceding views are not irreconcilable with the Sacred Text, nor inconsistent with Creative Wisdom, as displayed in the other kingdoms of nature. On the contrary, they are calculated to extend our knowledge and exalt our conceptions of Omnipotence. By the simultaneous creation of a plurality of original stocks, the population of the earth became not an accidental result, but a matter of certainty. Many and distant regions which, in accordance with the doctrine of a single origin, would have remained for thousands of years unpeopled and unknown, received at once their allotted inhabitants; and these, instead of being left to struggle with the vicissitudes of chance, were from the beginning adapted to those varied circumstances of climate and locality which yet mark their respective positions upon the earth."

There is in this some respect exhibited towards the Mosaic account, which Dr. Nott and Mr. Gliddon seem disposed to regard derisively; but there is also shown the littleness of man's mental power and vain assumption in his contemplation of the work of the Creator. What train of reasoning led Dr. Morton to fancy that God had left any part of the creation "to struggle with the vicissitudes of chance?" Can it be imagined for a moment that what we denominate the vicissitudes of chance are not under the control and direction of those fixed laws which an All wise hand has placed over all things, both physical and spiritual? There is no reason to suppose that there is any thing in the creation left to chance or hap-hazard contingencies.

The propriety of publishing the crude or unfinished labors of a

literary or scientific man is, to say the least, questionable. Had Dr. Morton lived to revise the paragraph above quoted, it is probable he would have modified the expression of opinion in this instance, and would have refrained from assigning motives to the Creator for any part of his works. This conjecture is based upon a statement by our authors that Dr. Morton found reason to change views published by him in his Crania Ægyptiaca.

On page 215 we are told that "Morton's *Crania Ægyptiaca* issued in 1844; at which day the discoveries of Lepsius were in progress, but not published; at the same time that the works of Rossellini, Champollion, Wilkinson, &c.—then the best sources of information respecting the monuments—did not extend, with the exception of some meagre materials, to the XIIth dynasty (by all three scholars then supposed to be the XVIIth,) beyond the XVIIIth, or about 1600 B. C."

On page 218 we are informed that Dr. Morton "made important modifications in some of his opinions," and again, page 229, "the Doctor himself had so far changed his opinions as *to feel assured* that the primordial Egyptians were not an Asiatic, but an aboriginal population, indigenous to the Nile-land, &c."

Can Messrs. Gliddon and Nott give us any guarantee that Dr. Morton would not have changed his opinions again, had he lived up to this time?

"Geology and palæontology, in connexion with human origins," is treated of by William Usher, M. D., of Mobile, in forty-five pages.

Hybridity of animals and the comparative anatomy of Races are treated by Dr. Nott.

Believing the entire work to be conceived and executed in an unphilosophical spirit, with a view to putting forth a special plea for one side of a question, instead of a simple and earnest endeavor to establish simple truth, which cannot be inconsistent with itself, no matter whether it be manifested physically or by spiritual revelation, it is no more worthy of critical and systematic examination than is Tom Paine's Age of Reason, although it has less merit as a literary effort than the work of that renowned deist.

All that the authors have said, in spite of their many curious and interesting statements, leads to no definite conclusion. They

have failed to establish any one point they have ventured to assert. Their work abounds in repetitions; and were they to recommit their materials to the process of thought and reflection, it is very possible that Dr. Nott or Mr. Agassiz might state every fact and argument adduced in one half the space.

The self-sufficiency, scientific assumption, and wordiness of Mr. Gliddon, place him far beyond the reach of our critical ability. It is our misfortune to believe that, in spite of his association with Agassiz, Morton, Usher and Nott, he will never be considered as authority for any thing in positive science, though in the field of conjecture he may always retain a conspicuous position.

The publishers, Messrs. Lippincott, Grambo & Co., are entitled to praise for the mechanical and artistic qualities of the volume, which are in all respects worthy of their well deserved reputation.

Transactions of the American Medical Association.

(Continued.)

Report of the Committee on Medical Education, N. S. Davis, M.D. *Chairman.*

The general subject is considered under three heads, viz: the medical periodicals of our country; the medical publications, including monographs and books; and the best means of elevating the character, and extending the usefulness of our national medical literature.

During the year from April, 1852, to April, 1853, there were published in the United States, twenty eight medical periodicals; of which four were issued quarterly; six bi-monthly; fifteen monthly; two semi-monthly; and one weekly.

The arrangement of these journals is alike in most respects, embracing original articles, cases, &c., reviews and bibliographical notices; selections from foreign and domestic sources, and editorials.

The editorials and selections are favorably spoken of, the former, we are informed, being generally written with candor and liberality, and the latter being judiciously chosen, and presenting matter of practical interest. As regards the original department of our journals, "many of the articles are of no value, for want

of fulness of observation and completeness of detail. Others present isolated facts of interest. And a comparatively small proportion are related with such minuteness and accuracy, and in such numbers, as to afford deduction of great practical and scientific value."

Faulty and worthless as great portions of it is, yet the Reporter is of opinion, judging from the comments of former committees, that a decided improvement has taken place in the original department of our journals, during the last two years; and justly, we think, attributes the melioration to the influence of the association, and its auxiliary societies.

The review and bibliographical department, with some gratifying exceptions, which are noticed, is stated to be "meagre and unsatisfactory in the extreme, consisting of little more than a copy of the title-page of the book, purporting to have been examined, with a single paragraph embodying a very general expression of opinion, and that almost always of a commendatory character."

"A comprehensive and impartial survey of the medical writings of our country, whether contained in periodicals, monographs or books, has induced us to refer their defects, directly or indirectly, to four primary sources. These are, *first*, deficiency of preliminary education; *second*, the absence of a clear and definite perception of the fundamental principles of physiology and pathology; *third*, defective modes of investigation; and, *fourth*, too much haste in the preparation of matter for the press."

It would be interesting, had we the time, to compare these opinions with those of Dr. La Roche, in his admirable introductory letter to Chas. D. Meigs, M. D., in his late work on "Pneumonia."

Dr. La Roche's intimate acquaintance with our own and foreign medical literature, entitles his opinion to great weight. We shall merely state that his views, regarding the ignoble condition of our medical literature, and his explanation of the causes which have produced such a state, agree, in many respects, with those given by Dr. Davis.

To remove the evils and imperfections complained of, which may be all traced to deficient education, or indirectly to an imperfect comprehension of the tasks undertaken, our great reliance

must be placed in "the creation of such a sentiment throughout the profession, as will not only restrain individual members from encouraging uneducated young men to enter the ranks of the profession; but it will, also, develope a nobler idea of what a physician should be, and with it an appetite for a purer, more philosophical, and comprehensive professional literature. The means for creating such a sentiment, are already in existence and active operation. They embrace the several faculties connected with the Medical Colleges, the conductors of our medical periodicals, and the active members of our national, State and local medical organizations."

On the agency of the Refrigeration, produced by upward radiation of Heat, as an existing cause of disease.

The agency of nocturnal terrestrial radiation in the production of disease, has received little or no attention from writers on Hygeine. It is the object of this Report to indicate the importance and proper method of guarding ourselves in sickly places and during epidemic periods, against the injurious and depressing influences due to the refrigeration produced by this cause. "That much sickness is thus produced, must, we think, be apparent to any one who knows that on calm and clear nights, bodies exposed to the open sky are liable to a reduction of 10° or 20° of temperature through the effect of radiation. That is to say, whilst a thermometer suspended in the open air, under a tent or other shelter, may indicate a temperature of 80°, a person outside, exposed to the clear sky, may be subjected to a refrigerating agent, calculated to produce a reduction of temperature sufficient to bring down the thermometer to 65° or ever 60°. The effects of a refrigeration much less than here stated, would, if long kept up, tend to disturb the healthy functions of the animal economy, especially in those who are peculiarly sensitive to changes of temperature." The slighest covering, even the flimsy protection afforded by a pocket-handkerchief, or a bush from a tree, will suffice to intercept the view of the sky, and thus prevent radiation, with its mischievous consequences."

The perusal of this paper has afforded us much gratification. The study of the application of natural laws to the preservation of health and consequent longevity of man, still remains a most extensive field, deserving of the investigation of the highest

intellect. It gives us much pleasure to commend the report, as a most valuable and suggestive paper.

On the Results of Surgical Operations in Malignant Diseases.

The object of Dr. Gross's paper is to exhibit the present state of opinion, in our own country and abroad, regarding the subject of his report. Under Part I. he notices, 1, the nature, objects and difficulties of the inquiry, the term malignant being applied to scirrhus, encephaloid, colloid and melanosis.

In the first division he considers, 1st, the nature, objects, and difficulties of the enquiry. 2. The origin of malignant diseases. 3. Their hereditary nature. 4. Their latency. 5. Circumstances contraindicating surgical interference. 6. Reproductive tendency after operation. 7. General rules respecting the manner of conducting excision. 8. Treatment after operation.

In the second division, we have, 1st, facts and observations contributed by J. Mason Warren, M. D., of Boston. Dr. Warren relates the history of twenty cases of cancerous tumors, and from the review of these, and the general impression of the results of his own practice, feels himself justified in drawing the following conclusions:

1. That in a certain number of cases, cancerous tumors, once removed, do not again return.

2. That in a certain other number, the patient, after immunity for a longer or shorter period, has a return of disease, requiring a second operation, which sometimes proves successful.

3. That in a great proportion of cases, the disease, after removal, returns either in the original wound, in its neighborhood, or in some internal organ.

4. That in consequence of the relief from pain during the operation, afforded by anæsthetic agents, and for reasons mentioned above, it is better to remove the tumor, provided the health be not much impaired and the disease yet remains local. For, in case of return, it generally reappears in a milder form, and the patient is saved from the loathsome character it assumes when allowed to proceed unrestrained to a fatal termination.

To this is added a table of recorded operations in Dr. Warren's hospital and private practice.

2. Table of results of surgical operations in malignant diseases, by Frank H. Hamilton, M. D.

3. Facts and observations contributed by different surgeons and gleaned from American and European authors.

The third division treats of cancer of particular organs, in relation to the results of surgical operations.

A large part of this branch of the subject is devoted to cancer of the breast. Cancer of the eye, of the gums and jaws, of the lip, of the penis, of the testicle, of the uterus, of the anus and rectum, and of the bones, are also described. From a consideration of the facts and statements presented, certain general conclusions are arrived at, for which we refer our readers to the report, merely stating that Dr. Gross has no confidence in any operation for malignant diseases, except the cancroid varieties.

In the March number of the Edinburgh Monthly Journal, there is an excellent review (by Dr. Bennett, we presume,) of Mr. Paget's lectures on Surgical Pathology, in connexion with M. Velpeau's Treatise on Diseases of the Breast, and Mr. Robert Druitt's work on the Modern Philosophy of Cancer. It is therein stated that M. Velpeau has demonstrated that MM. Lebert, Robin, Broca, and Follin have been frequently wrong in attributing malignancy, from microscopical observations, to tumors which were, in point of fact, innocent, and that other tumors, "maintained by them to be innocent, rapidly returned after extirpation, in various parts of the body, destroyed the patient and were consequently malignant." M. Velpeau has also "shown that tumors undoubtedly cancerous, both in a surgical and histological point of view, may be excised with the most perfect success." Several cases of this latter kind are referred to by the reviewer, and some are given us, from which we must draw the inference "that true cancerous tumors, both hard and soft, not merely said to be so as the result of experience, but *proved* to be so by careful histological examination, are admitted and described by one of the first surgeons of the day, to be capable of being successfully extirpated from the body, and causing a restoration of perfect health from at least three to six years, and in a few cases even longer. But Mr. Paget says that neither he nor Lebert have yet met with a case in which recurrence was delayed beyond eight years; and as to ultimate cure, he adds, "without saying it is impossible, it is so highly improbable, that a hope of its occurring in any single case cannot be reasonably

entertained." "It is of the utmost importance, therefore, in reference to this question, that M. Velpeau should continue to watch his cases, because on him seems to depend the speedy solution of the great practical question, whether a tumor *proved* to be a cancer, may or may not be permanently eradicated."

Respecting secondary tumors, M. Velpeau says that he has "cured, radically, women after three successive operations, and some others after the second." "M. Roux has succeeded in bringing about a permanent cure, after six returns of the cancer." The reviewer closes with the statement that our present notions on the malignancy of these affections "are faulty in the extreme, and a far more extended series of researches is required before we are warranted to approach, much less dogmatise on, morbid growths."

These statements, it will be seen, are entirely opposed to the opinions expressed by Dr. Gross in his general conclusions. The subject is a very perplexing one. The study of structure is however so much advanced, and there are so many men of high scientific attainments engaged in its investigation, that we have a right to expect that much of the discrepancy of opinion now existing, will, in the course of a few years, be dissipated on these momentous points.

(To be continued.)

Elementary Chemistry: Theoretical and Practical. By GEORGE FOWNES, P. H. D., &c. *Edited with additions by* ROBERT BRIDGES, M. D. Blanchard & Lea.

There are few tasks more difficult to complete successfully than that of preparing a good text book of Chemistry. To bring within a limited number of pages, all that is essential to a general knowledge of the science, to explain the laws that govern chemical affinity, to enumerate the elements and their inorganic compounds, and to give even but a passing glance at the most prominent objects in the unlimited field of organic chemistry, would seem to require indeed no ordinary powers. But when we find that of the space thus limited, one-fourth must be devoted to Physics, a subject having no necessary connection with Chemistry, and as capable of being studied, as well without the help of the latter, as with it, we would feel inclined to throw up the task,

in despair of ever doing justice to the science we undertook to teach, or of giving even the faintest outlines of its infinitudes of matters.

On first taking up Fownes' Chemistry, we were disposed to view it as a mere epitome of the text books of others, but on comparing it with the American editions of Turner's and of Grahams', we found that, notwithstanding it is not more than half the size of these, it was in all respects equal to either in fulness of detail, and in systematic arrangement. This is in part due to the print being closer and smaller, but also in a greater degree to the condensed style, which without being, like Gmelin's Handbuch, for instance, so very terse, dry and statistical as to be useless as a text book, yet contains a great amount of matter in as little space as possible, without falling into the above mentioned extreme.

We never open any of the well known treatises on chemistry, without regretting that so little is said about Microscopical Chemistry. The microscope is now almost as necessary to the Chemist as the balance or the blow-pipe, not only in physiological but even in inorganic Chemistry. Although, in the examination of urine and in the detection of the crystallizable constituents or the various fluids of the body, &c. &c., it is indispensable, yet in every general treatise with which we are familiar, it is entirely omitted; and animal chemistry is almost entirely left to the Physiologist, to whose domain it does not more properly belong, than vegetable chemistry does to that of the Botanist. In regard to physiological chemistry, the work before us is certainly superior to any of the systematic treatises of general chemistry with which we are acquainted, containing better and more complete observations upon the fluids of the body; viz. blood, milk, urine, &c. &c., with microscopical views of the globules contained therein, directions for detecting sugar and albumen in urine; and woodcuts illustrating the most important of the urinary calculi. The limited size of the work prevents the above being treated very much in detail, but in the absence of works devoted especially to this branch, this volume cannot but prove of great utility to the student in physiological chemistry.

The last English edition of Fownes' Chemistry, produced under the superintendence of the distinguished chemists H. Bence Jones and A. W. Hoffman, appeared towards the end of 1852. When we

state that the American edition has been edited by Dr. Bridges of this city, we need give no further assurance that the work contains all the new discoveries and theories of value known in this country at the date of publication, Oct. 1853. Much valuable information omitted in the English edition, has been supplied in this, in foot notes by the Editor. We notice, for instance, remarks on the antidotes for and detection of arsenious acid; the latest views on the nature of many organic compounds; the basic nature of glycerine, &c. &c. We much regret that the Editor of the American Edition was not able to insert an abstract of Liebig's admirable process of determining urea, phosphates and chlorides in urine, published in the Annalen der Chemie, March, 1853. To the physician who wishes to experiment upon the constituents of normal or diseased urine, its value cannot be too highly extolled.

In addition to previous remarks, we must draw attention to the fact, that this edition is the latest treatise on Chemistry, and in so progressive a science, every thing else being equal, the latest work is by far the best one.

A Practical Treatise on Inflammation of the Uterus, its Cervix and Appendages, and on its Connexion with Uterine Disease. By James Henry Bennett, M. D., &c. Fourth American from the Third and revised London Edition. Philadelphia. Blanchard & Lea. 1853.

No writer of the present day, on the subject of uterine pathology, has acquired a higher reputation than Dr. Bennett. His first edition, published in 1845, drew the attention of the profession to the frequency of chronic inflammation of the neck of the uterus, as the cause of most of the affections to which that organ is subject. The value of the speculum for facilitating diagnosis, and for the application of remedies, was also pointed out and strongly insisted upon. His views on these points have been before the profession for many years, and have consequently far passed beyond that period of time in which criticism could in any way affect their reputation. The present edition has been carefully revised and rendered more complete by many additions.

First Principles of Medicine. By ARCHIBALD BILLING, M. D., A. M., F. R. S., &c. Second American from the revised and improved Fifth London Edition. Philadelphia. Lea & Blanchard. 1854.

Dr. Billing's "First Principles" may be safely recommended as a work containing much valuable and suggestive matter. Its worth has been highly appreciated, it having passed through five editions.

THE MEDICAL EXAMINER.

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1854.

A full report of the Proceedings of the late meeting of the American Medical Association at St. Louis, will be found in this number of the Examiner. The meeting, we learn, was in every respect agreeable and satisfactory; and our friends from Philadelphia, who were present, express, in the warmest terms, their sense of the overflowing kindness and hospitality, public and private, which was lavished upon them by the profession and citizens of St. Louis.

It will be seen from the Proceedings, that the Presidency of the Association was conferred upon DR. CHARLES A. POPE, of St. Louis, a high but merited compliment to a gentleman, who, though young in years, has won an enviable personal and professional position. Dr. Pope discharged the duties of the Chair with eminent courtesy dignity, and propriety.

In the number and interest of the *Reports*, we have no doubt that the volume of Transactions for the present year will be found in no way inferior to any of its predecessors. We regret, however, to perceive that a practice has grown up of holding back the presentation of Reports from the meeting of the Association, under the expectation that the authors will be permitted to complete them at their leisure, and afterwards to hand them to the Committee of Publication. This indulgence, though under certain circumstances no doubt occassionally proper, may

lapse into an abuse, and it appears to us that it would perhaps be best in no case to allow papers to go into the volume of Transactions, which are not actually presented to the Association. We should prefer, too, as a general rule, to hear all Reports read in extenso, and not condensed into *abstracts*, which in some cases are so brief as scarcely to convey an idea of the bearing of the papers. Can the time of the Association be better employed than in hearing these Reports? And, apart from the interest and profit which they afford, is it not proper that the Association should be made acquainted with the matter which it is about to send forth as a portion of its Transactions?

Under the present system of Committees on Specialties, five years are, we believe, allowed a Committee for the completion of a Report. A considerable number of the Committees very properly asked and obtained extension of time, and were continued. There are certain Committees, however, Reports from which are obviously expected at each session; and some of these were not forthcoming. We allude to the point, because we think that hereafter Chairmen of Committees on topics of immediate and passing interest, should either prepare Reports or make a timely transfer of their duties.

The amendments to the Constitution on the subject of Representation, were not called up. What their fate would have been, and what was the temper of the Association in regard to them, must be left to speculation, as the matter was not in any way introduced. The want of concert of action on the part of the friends of reform, and of arrangement to bring the subject forward, evince, however, a decline of interest in the question, and the absence of any strong desire to disturb the present organization of the Association.

The list of Committees shows a change in the constitution of the Committee of Publication. Since the foundation of the Association, a majority of this Committee has been selected from the profession of Philadelphia, with the understanding that the Transactions would be issued in this city. A majority of the Committee is now, however, taken from the profession of New York, with the understanding that the publication of the Transactions is transferred to the latter city. This change was not made without considerable discussion. It was contended, on the one hand, that it was better to retain the experience and tried ability of the gentlemen who have so long superintended the publication of the Transactions in Philadelphia, and that the facilities for their early and creditable issue in this city, were not surpassed in other places. On the other hand, a strong feeling was evinced in favor of a distribution of the honors

and labors of the Association, and this feeling finally prevailed. The discussion of the proposed removal was animated, but conducted with entire courtesy and good feeling. And, in referring to the topic, we beg to say, that we bow most cheerfully to the expressed decision of the Association, in the exercise of its undoubted right upon the subject, and that we have every reason to anticipate that the zeal and industry of our friends in New York will do early and ample justice to the papers committed to their hands.

A resolution was passed by the Association, that the majority of the Committee of Publication shall hereafter be taken from the profession of the city in which the Association may meet. The principle of rotation in all its offices appears to be thus established as the settled policy of the Association. A majority of the Publication Committee will in accordance with this resolution, next year be selected from Philadelphia, and thereafter annually changed with the place of meeting.

Another resolution, passed with reference to the Publication of the Transactions, prohibits the issue, in separate form, of any paper included in the volume of the Transactions. Objection was especially made to the use of types or plates prepared at the expense of the Association, by a publishing house, for a nominal consideration; and it was argued, with justice, certainly, that such separate issue is a material interference with the sale of the Transactions.

By the selection of Philadelphia for the next annual session of the Association, the profession of Philadelphia feels greatly complimented and gratified. We hope to be able to make the meeting pleasant to our friends, whom we trust to see from every section of the Union, and we beg to assure them that we are not unmindful of the noble courtesy which has been received, for so long a series of years, by the profession of Philadelphia from her sister cities.

In the July number we shall publish an article by Dr. Brinton, upon a new way of preserving anatomical specimens, animal substances, &c., from decomposition. The perfectly successful preservation of the articles exhibited to us, induces us to think very highly of its value.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,

At the Annual Session held in St. Louis, Missouri, May, 1854.

Pursuant to the resolution adopted at the last Annual Session, the members of the American Medical Association assembled at St. Louis, Mo., on Tuesday, 2d May, 1854. At eleven o'clock, A. M., the Association was called to order in the Verandah Hall, by Dr. USHER PARSONS, of Rhode Island, the senior Vice-President of the Association, and the following letter was read from Dr. JONATHAN KNIGHT, of Connecticut, the President of the Association, in which he announced his inability to be present :

New Haven, Conn., April 25, 1854.

To Edwin S Lemoine, M. D., Secretary of the American Medical Association, St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir,—As the time is near at hand for the assembling of the American Medical Association, it is proper for me to inform you, and through you the members of the Association, that it will not be in my power to be present at the annual meeting. I have come to this conclusion after much reflection, with great reluctance. The meetings of the Association have always been periods of high gratification to me.

The acquaintance there formed, and the intercourse had with the members of the profession from every part of the country, have been among the most gratifying events of my life. I have looked forward to the annual meeting of this year with the anticipation of unusual satisfaction. There was a portion of the country new to me to be visited ; there were members of the profession, probably in large numbers, few of whom were known to me, to become acquainted with, in addition to the ordinary attractions of the meeting, which made me strongly desirous for my own sake to be present.

At the same time, I feel the full weight of the obligation to attend the meeting this year, arising from the high honor which has been conferred upon me by the Association. Perhaps no one so little deserving has received so many and so great favors from the medical profession, and I take this opportunity to renew my acknowledgments for these favors.

It is with no ordinary emotion that, although absent, I greet those of my professional brethren who will be present at St. Louis. I do this with the most cordial feelings, and with the strongest wishes for their welfare. Allow me, also, to express the confident hope that their wise deliberations will result in the promotion of the best interests of the profession, and advantage of the country, and to ask that the blessing of God may rest upon their labors.

With esteem and respect, your ob't servant, J. KNIGHT.

The following letter was next read from Dr. KNIGHT to Dr. PARSONS, notifying him of his (Dr. Knight's) intended absence :

New Haven, April 15*th,* 1854.

To Usher Parsons, M. D., Providence.

My Dear Sir,—As the time is near at hand for the meeting of the American Medical Association at St. Louis, it is proper for me to in-

form you that I shall not probably be able to attend it. Matters of a purely personal nature will, I suppose, deprive me of that pleasure. As you are the Senior Vice President of the Association, I trust you will be present and perform the duties which will devolve upon you. I give you this early notice that you may have time to prepare such an address as may be proper for the occasion. That you will do this as you do everything else, (in the best manner,) I have no doubt. With esteem and respect, your obedient servant, J. KNIGHT.

Dr. E. S. LEMOINE, of Missouri, one of the Secretaries, next read a letter from Dr. E. S. BEADLE, of N. Y., in which he expressed his inability to attend and discharge the duties of one of the Secretaries.

Dr. JAMES R. WASHINGTON, of St. Louis, Mo., Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, now welcomed the assembled delegates, on behalf of the profession of St. Louis, in a most cordial and eloquent address.

The Vice-President, Dr. PARSONS, announced that the Association was now formally organized, and that the first business in order would be the reading of the credentials of the delegates.

The roll was accordingly read by States and Societies, and the following delegates present answered to their names:

Maine—Joseph H. Eastbrook, M. D., Maine Medical Association; Charles Millet, M. D., do.; Sylvester Oakes, M. D., Lewiston Falls Medical Association.

Massachusetts.—Dr. John Green, Masachusetts Medical Society; Dr. A. A. Gould, do.; Dr. John Flint, Boston Society for Medical Improvement; L. N. Bates, M. D., Worcester Co. Medical Society; D. H. Storer, M. D., Mass. Gen'l Hospital; Ephraim Lovell, M. D., do.; Benj. F. Haywood, M. D., do.; Alfred Hitchcock, M. D., do.

Rhode Island.—Dr. Usher Parsons.

Connecticut.—Dr. Nathan R. Ives, Con't Medical Society; Dr. L. G. Rockwell, do.; Dr. Charles Hooker, Medical Institute of Yale College.

New York.—S. K. French, M. D., Medical Association of Central New York; Joel E. Hawley, M. D., Geneva Medical College; James D. Phelps, M. D., New York County Medical Society; Thos. W. Blatchford, M. D., New York State Medical Society; Caleb Budlong, M. D., Herkimer County Medical Society; R. D. Allen, M. D., New York State Medical Society; Henry S. Douns, M. D., N. Y. County Medical Society; Lewis A. Sayre, M. D., N. Y. Academy of Medicine; Alden March, M. D., Albany Medical College; Chandler R. Gillman, M. D., N. Y. College of Physicians and Surgeons; E. H. Davis, M. D., N. Y. Medical College; Jas. P. White, M. D., University of Buffalo.

New Jersey.—G. R. Chetwood, M. D., Essex Dist. Med. Soc'y; L. A. Smith, M. D., N. J. State Medical Society.

Pennsylvania.—John L. Atlee, M. D., and Jno. C. Ross, M. D. State Medical Society; Réné La Roche, M. D., Philadelphia County Medical Society; John B. Biddle, M. D., College of Physicians, of Philadelphia; Samuel Keannegy, M. D., John Kean, M. D., Samuel Parker, M. D., Isaac C. Weiddler, M. D., Lancaster County Medical

Society; Isaac Thomas, M. D., Chester County Medical Society; N. L. Hatfield, M. D., N. Med. Association of Philadelphia; George W. Norris, M. D., Pennsylvania Hospital; Francis West, M. D., Philad'a Association for Med. Instruction; Joseph Carson, M. D., and Joseph Leidy, M. D., University of Pennsylvania; John B. Biddle, M. D., Medical Department of Pennsylvania College; Samuel H. Meade, M. D., and J. B. Bell, M. D., Medico-Chirurgical College; Wm. Keith, M. D., Permanent Member.

Virginia.—Adam Spitler, M. D., Medical Society of Virginia.

South Carolina.—J. L. Dawson, Medical Society of South Carolina; Robt. S. Bailey, S. C. Medical Association; Wm. T. Wragg, Medical Society of S. C.; Henry R. Frost, Faculty Medical College of S. C.; Thos. G. Prioleau, do.; Wm. H. Ford, Medical Society of S. C.; Wm. C. Ravenel, S. C. Medical Association; J. Ford Prioleau, Medical Society of S. C.

Alabama.—S. W. Clanton, Alabama State Medical Association.

Mississippi.—T. J. Grafton, Jefferson Medical Association.

Louisiana.—E. D. Fenner, La. State Medical Society.

Cherokee.—R. D. Ross, Medical Society of Cherokee Nation.

Kentucky.—John R. Allen, Medical Department Transylvania University; Saml. D. Gross, University of Louisville; R. J Breckenridge, Kentucky Medical School; J. W. Scott, U. S. Marine Hospital, Louisville; John Magoffin, do.; Walter A. Norwood, Permanent Member.

Ohio.—W. W. Taggart, Wayne co. Medical Society; J. D. Robinson, do.; W. T. Taliaferro, Cincinnati Medical Society; R. D. Mussey, Miami Medical College; Robt. R. McIlvaine, Medico-Chir. Society of Cincinnati; O. M. Langdon, do.; J. J. Arons, do.; Wm. Clendenin, do.; Amos C. Smith, State Medical Association of Ohio; J. Y. Updergraff, Belmont Medical Society; S. M. Smith, Starling Medical College; C. B. Hughes, Medico-Chir. Society, Cincinnati; J. E. Nagle, Hardin co. Medical Society; Geo. Mendenhall, Miami Medical College; J. A. Coons, Montgomery co. Medical Society; Joshua Clements, do.

Indiana.—Wm. H. Byford, Evansville Medical College; D. Morgan, Evansville Medical Society; W. W. Hitt, Vincennes Medical Society.

Missouri.—Wm. M. McPheeters, Medical Department St. Louis University; R. S. Holmes, do.; Jas. R. Washington, St. Louis Medical Society; S. Gratz Moses, do.; A. J. Coons, do.; E. S. Lemoine, do.; F. E. Baumgartner, do.; Geo. S. Walker, do.; W. S. Edgar, do.; W. S. Golding, do.; Chas. W. Stevens, O'Fallon Dispensary; Alfred Behr, German Medical Society of St. Louis; Adolphus Wislizenus, do.; M. L. Linton, St. Louis City Hospital; C. A. Pope, do.; E. Y. Bannister, United States City Hospital; J. B. Johnson, do.; George Johnson, United States Marine Hospital; John C. Wellorn, Pike County Medical Society; George Engleman, Medical Association of the State of Missouri; Thos. Reyburn, do.; Daniel Sandy, do.; John Barnes, do.; J. Pollak, do.; L. P. Perry, do.; H. A. Prout, do.; David M. Cooper, do.; S. W. Adreon, do.; Alexander Marshall, do.; J. W. Wilson, do.; H. Schoenich, do.; Wm. P. Boulware, do.; Isaac P. Vaughan, do.;

Hammond Schoemaker, do; John Laughton, do.; W. A. Jenkins, do.; John S. Moore, Medical Department of the University of Missouri; Jos. M. McDowell, do.; John B. Alexander, Lafayette County Medical Association; J. B. Atkinson, do.; Charles Quarles Chandler, Missouri State Medical Society; Wm. Webb, Permanent Member; J. S. B. Alleyne, St. Louis Medical Institute; J. O. F. Farrar, do.; Abner Hopton, Dispensary of the University of Missouri; Charles W. Hempstead, Permanent Member; Richard G. Barrett, St. Louis County Hospital; Geo. Penn, do.; W. A. Curry, State Prison Hospital; R. K. Lewis, Randolph County Medical Society; John M. McKeage, St. Louis County Lying-in Hospital; Jos. Buron, St. Louis County Insane Hospital; J. W. B. Reynolds, Franklin County Medical Society; Pierce M. Butler, do.; Charles L. Boisliniere, Biddle Lying-in Hospital; M. M. Pallen, do.; F. P. Leavenworth, St. Louis Quarantine Hospital; A. Litton, Permanent Member.

Michigan.—A. B. Palmer, State Medical Society; J. H. Beech, do; Wm. Brodie, Detroit Medical Society; Andrew Murray, Medical Association of Michigan.

Iowa.—John D. Elbert, State Medical Society; Thomas Silvester, do.; John F. Fly, North Western Medical Society; L. McGuigan, Iowa University Medical Department; E. R. Ford, do.; E. A. Arnold, City Hospital, Keokuk; N. Van Patten, Clinton Medical Society; J. L. Sanford.

Illinois.—E. S. Cooper, Illinois State Medical Society; Samuel Thompson, do.; Thomas D. Washburn, Æsculapian Medical Society; James Bunce, Knox county Medical Society; J. W. Spalding, do.; Wm. Wood, Alexandria county, Illinois; George W. Stipp, McLane Medical Society; Y. P. Rogers, do.; S. Y. Baldwin, Mason Medical Society; S. T. Trowbridge, do.; E. L. Colburn, Peoria Medical Society; M. Shepherd, member; N. S. Davis, Hospital of the Sisters of Mercy, Chicago; Daniel Brainard, Rush Medical College; W. B. Herrick, do.; J. S. Maus, Pekin Medical Society; J. C. Hinsey, do.; Joseph Stout, Lasalle county Medical Society; George T. Allen, Madison county Medical Society; Rudolphus Rouse, State Medical Society, and Peoria Medical and Surgical Society; H. A. Johnson, State Medical Society; Wm. W. Welsh, do.; Samuel Long, do.; James Bloodgood, Cook county Medical Society; Adam Nichas, permanent member, Quincy; Charles W. Clarke, Winnebago county Medical Society; Daniel Stahl, Adams county Medical Society; W. C. Quigley, Cook county Medical Society; J. N. Ralston, Adams county Medical Society; W. H. Davis, Medical Society, Illinois.

Wisconsin.—J. B. Dousman, State Medical Society; J. K. Bartlett, do.; John H. Murphy, Minesota Medical Society.

Tennessee.—Lewis Shanks, Memphis Medical College, A. P. Merrill, do.; E. R. Dabney, Montgomery county Medical Society; J. L. C. Johnstone, do.; Frank A. Ramsey, Tennessee Medical Society; Wm. D. Haggard, Sumner county Medical Society; H. M. Clements, Medical Society, Tennessee; J. B. Lindsley, do.; Wm. K. Boling, Medical

Dept. of the University of Nashville; Paul F. Eve, University of Nashville; C. B. Guthrie, Permanent Member.

U. S. Navy.—Ninian Pinkney, M. D.

After the calling of the Roll, the Report of the Committee of Publication was read, and, on motion of Dr. ATLEE, of Pennsylvania, was laid on the table for the present.

On motion of Dr. J. P. WHITE, of Buffalo, N. York, a recess of fifteen minutes was now taken, to allow the State Delegations respectively to meet and appoint representatives in the Nominating Committee to report Officers for the Association.

After the recess, the various State Delegations reported the following gentlemen, as the Nominating Committee :—

Maine.—Dr. Charles Millett.
Massachusetts.—Dr. D. H. Storer.
Connecticut.—Dr. P. G. Rockwell.
New York.—Dr. J. P. White.
New Jersey.—Dr. George R. Chitwood.
Pennsylvania.—Dr. Rene La Roche.
Virginia.—Dr. Adam Spitler.
Minnesota.—Dr. J. H. Murphy.
South Carolina.—Dr. Thomas G. Prioleau.
Illinois.—Dr. W. B. Herrick.
Alabama.—Dr. S. W. Clanton.
Louisiana.—Dr. E. D. Fenner.
Missouri.—Dr. Thomas Reyburn.
Michigan.—Dr. William Brodie.
Mississippi.—Dr. T. J. Grafton.
Iowa.—Dr. T. Seviter.
Tennessee.—Dr. J. B. Lindsley.
Wisconsin.—Dr. J. B. Dousman.
Kentucky.—Dr. Robert J. Breckenridge.
Ohio.—Dr. O. M. Langdon.
Indiana.—Dr. W. W. Hitt.

On motion of Dr. ATLEE, it was resolved, that the morning Sessions of the Association shall be from 9 A. M. to 1 P. M., and the afternoon Sessions from 3 to 5 P. M.

Dr. BRAINARD, of Chicago, Illinois, offered the following resolution: That the future meetings of the Association shall be held alternately in the Eastern, Southern, and Western Sections of the Union.

After some discussion, on motion of Dr. BARNES, of St. Louis, this resolution was laid on the table.

Dr. BIDDLE, of Pennsylvania, on behalf of the Philadelphia delegation, tendered an invitation from the profession of Philadelphia to the Association, to hold its next annual meeting at Philadelphia.

On motion, the Association adjourned to 3 P. M.

Afternoon Session.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Association met at 3 P. M.

The Acting President, Dr. PARSONS, read the following Annual Ad-

dress, the preparation of which had devolved on him, in consequence of the absence of the President, Dr. Knight.

Gentlemen of the American Association:

It has been customary for the presiding officer of this Association, on retiring from the Chair, to give a valedictory discourse. On the eve of my departure from Rhode Island our venerable President notified me of his inability to attend and perform this part of his official duty, which deprives us of the rich entertainment anticipated from so distinguished a scholar and professor. The notice being entirely unexpected, I am unprepared to offer you anything worthy of your attention, and my inclination would, therefore, be to remain silent, but for an apprehension that this course might operate as a precedent to others, on similar occasions. I will, therefore, present you, rather as an apology for a discourse, a few thoughts that have suggested themselves while on my way to this city.

In order to promote the honor, dignity and usefulness of our profession, objects for which the Association was instituted, its members must be gathered from all parts of our country and united into one harmonious fraternity, and must adopt such measures as will promote and perpetuate among ourselves an *esprit de corps*, a conformity of sentiment and feeling, and a combination and co-operation in action. This has already been accomplished in a degree by holding our annual meetings in distant and remote cities of the Union. They must continue to be carried to new and ever-varying spheres of action, until their beneficial influence is made available to the whole profession. As the metallurgist, in separating a heterogeneous mass of particles, passes over it a magnetic bar, to attract the pure iron and steal with a force proportioned to its proximity, so must the meetings of this Association, in order to gather into one fold suitable materials of growth and strength, be carried from place to place over the wide mass of our population, attracting from the dross and impurities all that is valuable and worthy of reception and incorporation into a homogeneous and efficient brotherhood. These considerations influenced me in voting to accept the invitation to hold the present meeting in Missouri, notwithstanding the toil and fatigue it imposed upon a large proportion of the delegates. It is here, more than elsewhere, that the meetings of the Association are likely to prove beneficial, by a rapid enlargement of our numbers.

Whoever glances at a map of the Mississippi Valley, extending from the base of the Alleghany and Cumberland Mountains to the margin of the Rocky Mountains—from the highlands bordering on Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico—and contemplates the fertility of its soil, its adaptation for cereal productions, which are so necessary for human subsistence and increase, and who surveys the majestic Mississippi, navigable through this whole territory, with its numerous navigable tributaries pouring in their treasures on either side, and adds to this the vast mineral resources, lead, copper, iron and coal, which are far more conducive to healthful opulence than the golden regions of California; whoever, I say, cordially surveys all these elements of future growth, expansion and

power, and moved onward by the agency of steam, on land and water, and in labor-saving mechanical and manufacturing operations, can arrive at no other conclusion than that this vast territory, the largest and most favored one by nature, of any under the whole canopy of Heaven, will in time be densely populated *with scores of millions*, and become the seat of empire of the western world, and that it is destined to be the grand theatre of human progress, in every department that is calculated to advance the dignity and promote the happiness of the human family.

And in no department of human affairs is progress here more sure than in medical knowledge. Our Atlantic States have inherited a reverence for European opinions, which, although commendable in our early medical history, is, at the present day, less favorable to American progress and discovery in medicine. We need to interrogate nature and experience more, and European opinions less; we need mental as well as political independence—a freer swing of thought and purpose that characterizes our brethren of the West, and which this Association is adapted to call into action.

There is much to encourage you in your recent discoveries and contributions—in the results of vivisections of saurians, the half of which, if confirmed by future experiments, will shed new light on Physiology. And again, in the discoveries made relating to the process of digestion, by your late lamented BEAUMONT, of St. Louis, who, for theories and speculations before prevailing, has substituted ocular demonstration of the modus operandi of that wonderful process, by submitting to it the various articles of human aliment, and determining the length of time required for converting each into healthful chyme: and again in the successful labors of DRAKE, in travelling from State to State throughout the valley, collecting the history and character of its epidemics, by personal inquiry and observation. Others of your venerated dead might be mentioned, who have pursued a like independent course untrammeled by prevailing European authorities. Of their immediate successors, who now stand at the head of the profession, it would ill become me to speak, seeing that some of them are present and unused to such freedom of remark. But to the junior members of the profession we would say, unite with us—follow the example of the distinguished pioneers I have named, and of Caldwell and Harrison who have gone to their reward—throw the result of your labors into the common stock of medical knowledge accumulated by this association, where, rest assured, they will be duly appreciated and be appropriated to the common benefit of the profession and of mankind, and redound eventually to your everlasting honor and professional fame.

Gentlemen, eight years have elapsed since the preliminary meeting of the convention which recommended the formation of this National Association, and the results of its labors have equalled the expectations of the friends of reform and progress in our profession. The six published volumes of transactions have successively increased in value and interest, and are enduring monuments of the ardent zeal and patient industry of the numerous contributors, and there is every reason to hope that our

future labors will continue to be crowned with equally increasing value and interest.

Gentlemen, we are reminded by the history of the past year of the frailty and uncertainty of human life. Death has removed many of our brethren of this association, and among them the illustrious BEAUMONT, already mentioned, and Dr. GEORGE C. SHATTUCK, LL. D., of Boston, an extensive and highly esteemed practitioner, and formerly President of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

He was reputed the wealthiest physician in New England, and his numerous bequests to educational, humane and religious iustitutions and enterprises, and to private charities, proclaim that his philanthropy was proportioned to his opulence.

We are reminded, by the return of this anniversary, of the terrible catastrophe that occurred at Norwalk. The Association had received from our brethren of New York a cordial welcome, and were honored with overflowing hospitality. After a delightful and profitable session, the Association adjourned, and many of them were on their way in cars to their respective homes, in joyous anticipation of rejoining their families, when in a moment—in the twinkling of an eye—seven of them were launched into eternity, leaving us the solemn admonition that in the midst of life we are in death. I should deem it a duty, on this occasion, to pay a tribute of respect to their memory, by portraying their many virtues and excellencies, as men and as physicians, had I not learned that justice will be done them by an abler pen. Our brethren of New York, with characteristic magnanimity, which adds to their claims on our gratitude, immediately on the announcement of the disaster, summoned a meeting, and passed resolutions expressive of their deep sorrow at the sad event, and tendering their condolence to the bereaved families. They also appointed a committee to prepare an eulogy on the deceased, to be offered at this annual meeting; and the distinguished ability of the chairman and members of that committee is a sufficient guarantee that justice will be done to the memory of these our lamented brethren.

A resolution was now offered that the address be referred to the Committee of Publication for incorporation in the transactions of the Associations, which was carried.

A letter was read, announcing that the sixth volume of the Transactions had been presented to the Imperial Academy of Medicine at Paris.

The following memorial by members of the Medical Association of the city of New York, was now read:

To the American Medical Association.

At a special meeting held in the city of New York, on the 12th of May, 1853, of such members "of the American Medical Asssociation as reside in the city and its vicinity, and such as were remaining here from abroad, for the purpose of expressing their feelings respecting the disaster on the New York and New Haven Railroad at Norwalk, in Connecticut, which resulted in the death of so many valuable members of

the Association," after adopting sundry resolutions expressive of their sentiments and sympathy with the bereaved, a committee of seven was appointed to devise some suitable method of commemorating the event, and the worth and professional character of our lamented associates, and to recommend said plan to the next annual meeting of the Association.

At a meeting of the Committee thus appointed it was resolved, that, in the opinion of the Committee, the most appropriate method of carrying into effect the objects had in view in their appointment, would be by preparing a narrative of the event, together with a brief biographical sketch of each individual, which shall embrace a notice of the birth-place, age, place of education, when and where they derived their medical authority, where located after entering the profession, tastes and habits of life, if any, to what particular branch of the profession devoted, what positions held in the profession, either as professors, presidents or officers of Medical Societies, what literary labors, medical or otherwise, performed, what done to advance the science of Medicine; and that such narrative and biographical memoirs be published in the next volume of of the Transactions of the Association.

The Chairman and Secretary of the Committee beg leave to state that, although they have taken measures to procure the materials for preparing the Biographical Memoirs, answers to all the letters of inquiry have not been received. In reporting the above proceedings of the Committee to the Association, they would respectfully recommend the adoption of the plan proposed, and suggest that they be authorized to complete the narrative and memoirs in question, and to transmit them to the Committee for publication. Jos. M. Smith, M. D., Chairman.

To E. L. Beadle, M. D., Secretary.

New York, April 24th, 1854.

The following resolutions passed at the annual meeting of the New Hampshire Medical Society were read:

At the Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Medical Society, held at Concord, June 1, 1853, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the decided opinion of the New Hampshire State Medical Society, that no Delegate should be admitted to membership in the American Medical Association, who represents a medical society which numbers among its members any person or persons who adopt as their system of practice any form of empiricism.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Society be instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretaries of each of the State Medical Societies, and to the Secretaries of the American Medical Association, previous to their next Annual Meeting. E. K. Webster,

Secretary N. H. Medical Society

Boscawen, June, 1853.

Dr. Gross, of Louisville, Ky., offered the following resolution: That hereafter it shall be disorderly for the profession in any city in which the Association may hereafter meet, to give costly entertainments.

This resolution was discussed by the mover, Dr. COONS, of St. Louis, and others, when a substitute, offered by Dr. MCPHEETERS, of St. Louis, and accepted by Dr. Gross, was adopted, to the effect that the Association discountenances for the future all extravagant public entertainments on the occasion of their meetings.

Dr. WHITE, from the Nominating Committee, made the following report, and the officers named therein were afterwards unanimously elected by the Association.

For President.—CHARLES A. POPE, M. D., of Missouri.
Vice Presidents.—E. D. FENNER, M. D., of Louisiana.
" " N. S. DAVIS, M. D., of Illinois.
" " WM. T. WRAGG, M. D., of South Carolina.
" " JOHN GREEN, M. D. of Massachusetts.
Secretaries.—E. S. LEMOINE, M. D. of Missouri.
" FRANCIS WEST, M. D., of Pennsylvania.
Treasurer.—D. F. CONDIE, M. D., of Pennsylvania.

Dr. STORER, of Boston, Dr. WHITE, of Buffalo, Dr. BRAINARD, of Chicago, and Dr. REED, of Tennessee, were appointed a committee to conduct the newly appointed officers to their seats on the platform.

In the absence of Dr. POPE, who was not in attendance, owing to indisposition in his family, Dr. FENNER, the senior Vice-President, took the Chair.

On motion of Dr. PALMER, of Michigan, it was resolved that the next Annual Meeting of the Association be held at Philadelphia.

The resolutions, forwarded by the Chairman of the Committee of Publication, were now taken up. They fix the annual assessment upon the members at *three dollars*, and authorize the Treasurer to erase the names of all members who shall be a year in arrears.

On motion of Dr. BIDDLE, these resolutions were so amended as to require the Treasurer, before erasing the name of any member, to issue a circular informing him of his indebtedness; and, as thus amended, the resolutions were adopted.

Dr. BRODIE, of Michigan, under instructions from the Detroit Medical Society, read an invitation to the Association to hold its next Annual Meeting at Detroit. In view, however, of the selection of Philadelphia, just made, he moved that the resolution lie on the table. Carried.

DR. ATLEE, from the committee to prepare a stone for the Washington Monument, made a report, in which he described the stone and inscription prepared. The funds raised being yet insufficient to defray the expenses incurred, DR. ATLEE invited further contributions.

DR. CHARLES HOOKER, of Connecticut, was appointed Treasurer pro tempore, in the absence of the Treasurer elect.

It being now announced that DR. POPE, the President elect, was in the hall, he was conducted to the chair by the committee appointed for the purpose; and, upon assuming the duties of his office, Dr. POPE returned thanks in a few highly appropriate and eloquent remarks.

DR. PINKNEY, U. S. Navy, now by request addressed the Association,

and returned the thanks of the medical officers of the Navy to the Association, for its sympathy and co-operation in the long struggle for their just rights of rank, in which the medical officers of the Navy had been engaged. That struggle, he believed, was near a termination; and the rank which was desired by his corps, would soon by law be conferred upon them, there was every reason to anticipate.

After the reading of several invitations, the Association adjourned.

Second Day, Wednesday, 4th May.

The meeting convened as per adjournment at nine o'clock, A. M., Dr. POPE, President, in the Chair.

The minutes of the preceding day were read, and after one or two slight amendments, were adopted.

The Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements reported the following Delegates as having registered their names since Tuesday:

Richard M. Cooper, Camden, New Jersey; F. S. Schenck, Somerset county, New Jersey; John A. French, Cheshire county, New Hampshire; Geo. R. Grant, Memphis, Tennessee; H. B. Musgrave, Cincinnati, Ohio; L. D. Waterman, Cincinnati, Ohio; M. B. Wright, Cincinnati, Ohio; J. C. Hughes, Keokuk, Iowa; Jas. W. Stone, Boston; John A. Ranch, Burlington, Iowa; David Prince, Jacksonville, Illinois; E. R. Dabney, Clarksville, Tennessee; J. L. C. Johnson, New Providence; S. A. Paddock, Princeton, Illinois; Wm. Corson, Norristown, Pennsylvania.

The names of several gentlemen were offered as members by invitation, and were accepted.

On motion, it was resolved, that the afternoon session be to-day ad-adjourned at 4 P. M.

On motion of Dr. ATLEE, a memorial from the American Medical Society of Paris to the A. M. Association, was read and referred to the Committee on Medical Education.

The President announced that the reading and consideration of the annual reports of committees would now be in order. The committees were accordingly called, as follows:

Dr. D. F. CONDIE, of Philadelphia, on the Causes of Tubercular Disease, was not prepared to report, and requested further time.

Dr. GEO. B. WOOD, of Philadelphia, on Diseases of Parasitic Origin not being present, had sent a verbal request to be discontinued. His request was accordingly granted.

Dr. JOHN L. ATLEE, of Lancaster, Pa., on Epidemics of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, not being prepared to make a full report, requested to be continued on the same committee.

Dr. D. J. CAIN, of Charleston, S. C., on Epidemics of South Carolina, Florida, Georgia and Alabama, read an abstract of his report. It was referred to the Committee on Publication.

Dr. W. L. SUTTON, of Georgetown, Ky., on Epidemics of Tennessee and Kentucky. He had made a partial report, but of such meagre materials that he requested to be continued. His report was referred to the Committee of Publication when ready.

Dr. GEORGE MENDENHALL, of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the Epidemics of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. He presented a report for the year 1852 and 1853, of which he read a brief abstract. The report was referred to the Committee on Publication with the request to have it published in the proceedings of the present year.

Drs. PALMER and ATLEE each dwelt at some length upon the great and lasting good that might be accomplished if all the members of the Association would duly record their individual experience of epidemics, and report all such cases to the Chairmen of the Committees. Dr. ATLEE had been two years Chairman of such a committee, and during that time had only received two such reports,—one from New York, and a partial one from Pennsylvania. He stated that he had used great exertions to get professional men to co-operate in this work, and appealed to the whole profession to do everything in their power to promote this great object. He very ably urged the necessity of co-operation by all the profession with the several committees having these reports in charge.

Dr. R. S. HOLMES, of St. Louis, Mo., on Epidemic Erysipelas read an abstract of his report. It was referred to the Committee on Publication.

Dr. E. D. FENNER, of New Orleans, on Epidemics of Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and Arkansas. He read a comprehensive abstract of his report—dwelling principally on the ravages of the cholera and yellow fever, and the causes and the means of treatment.

Dr. FENNER had not completed his report, and Dr. MCPHEETERS offered a resolution that Dr. FENNER be requested to complete his report, and submit it to the Committee on Publication to be published. The resolution was adopted.

Dr. MUSSEY, of Cincinnati, now made a motion to suspend the order of regular business, to allow Dr. LINTON, of St. Louis, to express his views with regard to the Pathology of the Yellow Fever. A suspension of business was made for the purpose.

The next report called for was that of Dr. DANIEL BRAINARD of Chicago, Illinois, on the Constitution and Local Treatment of Carcinoma. He requested further time to make a full report.

Dr. N. S. DAVIS of Chicago, Illinois, on the Influence of Local Circumstances on the Origin and Prevalence of Typhoid Fever. The report, of which he read a brief abstract, was referred to the Committee on Publication.

Dr. DONALDSON of Baltimore, on the Present and Prospective value of the Microscope in Disease. Dr. DONALDSON, in a communication, stated that his report was complete, as he was not being present, it was without reading, referred to the Committee on Publication.

The Report of the Committee on Medical Education being called for, it was stated that Dr. WELLFORD, of Virginia, the Chairman, had transferred the duty assigned him to Dr. CABELL, of Virginia. Dr. Cabell had prepared a report, but (as we understood) it had not been transmitted to the Association. It was referred to the Committee on Publication.

The Report of the Committee on Medical Literature, Dr. T. S. BELL, of Kentucky, Chairman, was called for, but no report was presented.

The Report of the Committee on Plans for the organization of State and County Societies, Dr. ISAAC HAYS, of Pennsylvania, Chairman, was called for, but no report was presented.

Dr. POPE, Chairman of the Committee on Prize Essays and Volunteer Communications, now made the following report:

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Committee on Prize Essays and Volunteer Communications, respectfully report that the Essays submitted to their consideration were nine in number, of which one was presented as a volunteer communication. The committee have carefully examined the whole of these Essays and bestowed upon them the attention which a sense of the importance of the duty assigned them imposed. They feel free to say that some of these Essays possess undoubted merit, both in matter and style, and they admit in them evidence of high scientific attainment as well as a familiarity with the graces of composition. But whilst cheerfully according these claims to their authors, the committee have preferred to be governed in their choice by considerations of originality and practical import, rather than of mere theoretic speculation, however finely portrayed. The committee, have, consequently, concluded to award but a single prize. The Essay selected is entitled "An Essay on a new method of treating Ununited Fractures and certain Deformities of the Osseous System." It bears a motto in French, (from Ambrose Paré,) which being literally rendered in modern English, reads, "and notwithstanding all the pains I have heretofore taken, I have reason to praise God, in that it hath pleased Him to call me to that branch of Medical practice commonly called Surgery, which can neither be bought by gold nor silver, but by industry alone and long experience."

If it please the Association I will now break the seal of the packet superscribed by the same motto, and declare the name of the successful competitor.

Dr. POPE then broke the seal and announced the name of Professor BRAINARD, of Chicago.

Dr. MCPHEETERS moved that Professor DANIEL BRAINARD be requested to take the stand and give the Association an abstract of his new mode of treating fractures, &c., which motion was carried, and Professor Brainard accordingly came forward, and gave the abstract desired.

Dr. HOOKER, of Connecticut, Treasurer, now introduced the subject of annual assessments, and called the attention of the Association to the fact that he was ready to receive the dues of members.

Dr. ELBERT, of Iowa, offered certain resolutions to the effect that a committee be appointed to recommend to the next annual meeting, for consideration, any alteration they may deem necessary in the Constitution, providing particularly that the election of officers, and the place of holding future annual meetings of the Association be determined by ballot, without the intervention of the Nominating Committee. The resolutions, after much discussion, were lost.

Dr. GUTHRIE offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously carried:

Resolved, That in the Secretary of the Treasury's recommendation to abolish or materially modify the duty on such crude drugs not produceable in this country, as are used in the laboratories of the country in the manufacture of chemicals, we recognise a wise provision for the further protection of the profession and the community at large from impure and sophisticated medicines.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be signed by the proper officers of this Association, and transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Dr. J. B. JOHNSON, of St. Louis, asked and obtained permission to read the following letter from Dr. STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS, of Illinois:

American Medical Biography, for the American Medical Association assembled at St. Louis.

Mr. PRESIDENT: At the last meeting of the Association at New York, I presented the following preamble and resolution through my friend Dr. STEWART, of New York, which, with some amendments were laid on the table:

"As we are constantly called upon to deplore the ravages of death among the illustrious and worthy members of our profession throughout the United States,

Resolved, That a standing committee be appointed by this Association to procure memorials of the eminent and worthy dead among the distinguished physicians of our country, and present them to the Association for publication in the transaction.

I now beg leave to call up the resolution through my friend Dr. J. B. JOHNSON, of St. Louis. The medical biography of our country is intimately related to the history of it, as the lives of eminent men are identified with the history of the times in which they lived. In the United States there have been, and are to be found, medical men whose lives and actions are ornaments to human nature, and whose brilliant career in the cause of humanity and science reflect honor and dignity upon our country. We differ nothing in this respect in comparison with the learned and eminent physicians of Europe.

The profession of medicine contains more learned and distinguished men than any other profession or calling, and some memorial of their lives and actions should be presented to the world, in a more durable form than the periodicals of the day, and particularly of the newspaper press. A more permanent and proper place for the publication of such memorials, would be in the Transactions of the American Medical Association, and without disparagement to any other articles which have heretofore been published in these transactions—which memorials would be read by the members of the profession with great interest and improvement. Short biographies need take up but little room in the publication, and this objection to the proposed movement may be obviated. We are constantly noticing that death spares no rank or condition of men. Those who contend most skilfully against his insatiate ravages, themselves fall victims to his all conquering sword. Within a very short space of time, we have been called to lament the death of Dr. Na-

thaniel Chapman, the former President of this Association, of Drs. Samuel G. Morton, Wm. E. Horner, Isaac Parrish, G. S. Pattison, J. Kearney Rogers, Daniel Drake, the great medical pioneer of the West, Samuel McClellan, Amos Switchell, Abel Pierson, G. C. Shattuck, Archibald Welch, and many others which time will not permit us to enumerate.

This is not the place to speak their eulogies. Some permanent notice of them and many others who have recently died, should be published in the Transactions of this Association, where the useful improvements and discoveries of the living should be recorded, and the memories of the worthy dead should be preserved. I hope the resolution will prevail. [Signed,] STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,

Lavina, Winnebago county, Illinois, late of Deerfield, Mass.

The Preamble and Resolutions referred to in the foregoing, were then on motion adopted. The Chair then announced that he would appoint the Committee contemplated by the Resolution hereafter.

Dr. MCILVAINE offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Association, the practice of Professors reading lectures to their classes, no matter with how much care selected from the musty records of antiquity, is a miserable apology for teaching, is prima facie evidence of their inaptness to instruct, and is inimical to medical progress.

It was, on motion, laid on the table.

Dr. FRENCH submitted the following resolution, which was carried :

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to enquire what State or other Society, represented in this Association, are in fellowship with irregular practitioners.

Dr. BLACHFORD of Troy, read a letter from Dr. A. D. SPORE, stating that he (Dr. SPORE) had been for some time investigating the subject of Hydrophobia, to ascertain what influence the weather had upon the disease, and in the letter he requested that communications on the subject might be sent to him by members of the Profession who had opportunities of making observations. Dr. SPORE not being a Delegate, it was moved that Dr. BLACHFORD be appointed Chairman of a Committee for the investigation of this subject.

Dr. MCDOWELL, of St. Louis, offered the following resolution :

That a committee be appointed to investigate the improvements in the instruments for Lithotomy by Drs. NATHAN R. SMITH, PAUL F. EVE, and MCDOWELL.

Dr. MCDOWELL stated that his object in the appointment of this committee was, to settle the question as to the claims of the surgeons named to priority of invention in the field alluded to.

Dr. REYBURN, of St. Louis, moved that the investigation be postponed for a year, as Dr. N. R. SMITH, of Baltimore, one of the parties involved, was absent.

On motion, the whole subject was laid on the table.

On motion of Dr. SMITH, of Columbus, Ohio,

Resolved, That a Standing Committee of ——— be appointed by the Association on the subject of Insanity as it prevails in this country, including its *causes* as hereditary transmission, educational influences, physical and moral, social and political institutions, &c.; *its forms* and *complications*, *curability* and means of cure and prevention.

Adjourned to 3 P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Association met as per adjournment.

Dr. WHITE, of Buffalo, submitted the following resolution, which was carried:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be presented to Dr. J. KNIGHT, late President, for the very dignified, courteous and efficient manner in which he presided over its deliberations, and that he be respectfully requested to furnish the usual address for publication.

The Committee appointed by the American Medical Association to devise or consider some comprehensive plan for the more general, systematic and thorough investigation of subjects connected with medical science, made a report, to which was appended the following resolution:

Resolved, That the American Medical Association hereby recommends all Medical Societies to establish, in accordance with the plan detailed in the foregoing report, special committees for the selection, investigation, collaboration and publication of all subjects of interest connected with medical science.

The resolution was carried, and the report and resolution was referred to the Committee on Publication.

Dr. ATLEE communicated to the Association that he had received a letter from Dr. PARRISH, Chairman of the Committee on Epidemics of New Jersey, stating that his report was yet unfinished, but would soon be ready for publication.

On motion, it was directed to be handed over to the Committee of Publication when finished.

Dr. N. S. DAVIS exhibited some samples of preserved milk, and asked the attention of the Association to the subject.

Adjourned to 9 A. M. to-morrow.

Third Day—Thursday, 4th May.

The Association convened at nine o'clock, A. M., Dr. POPE, President, in the Chair.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended for the purposes of filling a vacancy in the Nominating Committee from Iowa.

On motion, Dr. MCGUIGAN was chosen to fill the vacancy.

The minutes of Wednesday's proceedings were read, and after a few unimportant amendments, were adopted.

Dr. ATLEE offered the following resolution, which carried:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Publication Committee to append to each volume of the transactions hereafter published, a copy of the Constitution of the Association.

The following resolution, offered by Dr. GROSS, was also carried, and Dr. GROSS was appointed by the Chair the committee designated:

Resolved, That a committee of one be appointed by the Chair to inquire into the causes which obstruct the formation and establishment of our National Medical Literature, and to report the subject at the next annual meeting of this Association, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Dr. J. BERRIEN LINDSLEY offered the following resolution, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Medical Education, with instructions to report at the next Annual Meeting of the Association:

Resolved, That this Association earnestly recommend to the few western schools which still retain the rule of making four years' practice equivalent to one term at college, the abrogation of said rule, as holding out a strong inducement and temptation to young men to enter upon the practice of medicine with little or no preparation.

Dr. PAUL F. EVE, of Nashville, Tenn., submitted the following resolution, which was carried:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair, to report at the next meeting of the Association, the best means for preventing the introduction of disease by emigrants into our country.

The Chair appointed Drs. Dickson, Griscom and E. D. Fenner, this committee.

Dr. LINTON, of St. Louis, offered the following, which was also referred to the above named committee.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Association, quarantine establishments afford no protection to States and cities against the invasion of epidemics such as cholera and yellow fever.

Dr. PENN offered a resolution to the following effect:

Resolved, That the members of the Committee of Arrangements who are not members of the Medical Association, be invited to take seats in this Association, as members by invitation.

Which was carried.

Dr. SAYRE, of N. York, called the attention of the Association to the offensive language of the Memorial of the American Medical Society of Paris, to the Association, which had been referred at a previous meeting, to the Committee on Education. Dr. SAYRE moved, that the memorial be withdrawn from the Committee on Education and laid on the table.

After an animated discussion, in which Drs. SAYRE, MCILVAINE, ATLEE, ELBERT, of Iowa, EDGAR and others participated, Dr. SAYRE'S resolution was carried.

On motion the regular business was suspended, to give place to the reading of the report of the Nominating Committee, of which the following is a copy:

Report of the Committee on Nominations.

The Committee on Nominations, in fulfilling the duty imposed upon them, recommend the continuance of several of the special committees previously created, and the appointment of some new ones. They,

therefore, submit the following list of Chairmen of special committees, with the subjects to them committed:

Dr. Worthington Hooker, of New Haven, Connecticut—On epidemics of New England and New York.

Dr. John L. Atlee, of Lancaster, Pa.—On epidemics of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland.

Dr. D. J. Cain, of Charleston, S. C.—On epidemics of South Carolina, Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

Dr. W. L. Sutton, of Georgetown, Ky.—On epidemics of Tennessee and Kentucky.

Dr. Thos. Reyburn, of St. Louis, Mo.—On epidemics of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin.

Dr. Geo. Mendenhall, of Cincinnati, Ohio—On epidemics of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan.

Dr. E. D Fenner, of New Orleans, La.—On epidemics of Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas.

Dr. James Jones, of New Orleans, La.—On the mutual relations of yellow and bilious remittent fever.

Dr. D. F. Condie, of Philadelphia, Pa.—On the causes of Tuberculous Disease.

Dr. Jos. Leidy, of Philadelphia, Pa.—On diseases of Parasitic Origin.

Dr. A. P. Merrill, of Memphis, Tenn.—On the Physiological Peculiarities and Diseases of Negroes.

Dr. Jos. N. McDowell, of St. Louis, Mo.—On statistics of the operation for the Removal of Stone in the Bladder.

Dr. F. P. Porcher, of Charleston, S. C.—On the Toxicological and Medicinal Properties of our Cryptogamic Plants.

Dr. Daniel Brainard, of Chicago, Ill.—On the Constitutional and Local Treatment of Carcinoma.

Dr. Geo. Engleman, of St. Louis, Mo.—On the Influence of Geological Formations on the Character of Disease.

Dr. Henry Taylor, of Mount Clemens, Mich.—On Dysentery.

Dr. Horace Green, of New York—On the use and effect of applications of Nitrate of Silver to the Throat in Local or General Disease.

Dr. P. C. Gooch, of Richmond, Va.—On the administration of Anaesthetic Agents, during Parturition.

Dr. Chas. Hooker, of New Haven, Conn.—On the Diet of the Sick.

Dr. E. R. Dabney, of Clarksville, Tenn.—On certain forms of Eruptive Fevers, prevalent in Middle Tennessee.

Dr. Sanford B. Hunt, of New York,—On the Hygrometrical State of the Atmosphere in various localities, and its influences on health.

Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, of Buffalo, New York,—On the frequency of deformities in fractures.

Dr. M. M. Pallen, of St. Louis, Mo.—On Diseases of the Prostate Gland.

Dr. H. A. Johnson, of Chicago, Ill.—On the Excretions as an index to the Organic Changes going on in the system.

Dr. Leroy H. Anderson, of Sumpterville, Ala.—On Typhoid Fever and its complications as it prevails in Alabama.

Dr. W. H. Byford, of Evansville, Ia.—On the Pathology and Treatment of Scrofula.

Dr. N. S. Davis, of Chicago, Ill.—On the Nutritive Qualities of Milk, and the influence produced thereon by pregnancy and menstruation in the human female, and by pregnancy in the cow, and also on the question whether there is not some mode by which the nutritive constituents of milk can be preserved in their purity and sweetness, and furnished to the inhabitants of cities in such quantities as to supersede the present defective and often unwholesome method of supply.

Dr. E. B. Haskens, of Clarksville, Tenn.—On the Microscopical Investigations of Malignant Tumors.

Dr. Geo. R. Grant, of Memphis, Tenn.—On the Sulphate of Quinia as a Remedial Agent in the Treatment of Fevers.

Dr. R. R. McIlvaine of Cincinnati, Ohio,—On the Study of Pathology at the Bedside.

Dr. E. S. Cooper, of Peoria, Ill.—On Orthopædic Surgery.

Dr. Andrew F. Jester, of Palmyra, Mo.—On the Modus Operandi of the Envenomed secretions of healthy Animals.

Dr. Saml. M. Smith, of Columbus, Ohio,—On Insanity.

Dr. Rene La Roche, of Philadelphia, Penn.—On the Jaundice of Yellow Fever in its Diagnostical and Prognostical Relations.

Dr. Charles Chandler of Rocheport, Mo.—On Malignant Periodic Fevers.

Dr. S. B. Chase, of Portland, Maine,—On Typhoid Fever in Maine.

Committee on Plans of Organization for State and County Societies—A. B. Palmer, M. D., Michigan; R. R. McIlvaine, M. D., Ohio; D. L. McGugin, M. D., Iowa; E. R. Peaslee, M. D., New Hampshire; Thos. Lipscomb, M. D., Tennessee.

Committee on Medical Literature—Robert J. Breckenridge, M. D., Kentucky, A. A. Gould, M. D., Massachusetts; D. L. McGugin, M. D., Iowa; J. B. Flint, M. D., Kentucky; O. M. Langdon, M. D., Ohio.

Committee on Medical Education—Wm. H. Anderson, M. D., Alabama; A. Lopez, M. D., do.; Andrew Murray, M. D., Michigan; F. A. Ramsay, M. D., Tennessee; R. D. Ross, M. D.

Committee on Prize Essays—Rene La Roche, M. D., Pennsylvania; Isaac Hays, M. D., do.; Alfred Stille, M. D., do.; J. B. Biddle, M. D., do.; Geo. W. Norris, M. D., do.; Joseph Carson, M. D., do.; Joseph Leidy, M. D., do.

Committee of Arrangements—Isaac Hays, M. D., Pennsylvania; G. Emerson, M. D. do.; Wilson Jewell, M. D., do.; Alfred Stille, M. D., do.; Francis West, M. D., do.; Wm. V. Keating, M. D., do.

Committee of Publication—Pliny Earle, M. D., New York; D. Francis Condie, M. D., Pennsylvania; E. S. Lemoine, M. D., Missouri; A. March, M. D., New York; E. H. Davis, M. D., do.; C. R. Gilman, M. D., do.; F. West, M. D., Pennsylvania.

After the reading of the report, Dr. REYBURN moved its adoption, excepting that portion referring to the Committee of Publication, in the following resolution:

Resolved, That the said report be adopted, with the exception of that portion which refers to the Committee of Publication.

A protracted and animated debate followed upon Dr. REYBURN's resolution, which our limits do not allow us to give in extenso.

Dr. REYBURN objected to the Committee of Publication reported by the Nominating Committee, as its object was, obviously, to remove the publication of the Transactions from Philadelphia to New York. He deprecated change, as discourteous to the former Chairman, Dr. CONDIE, and he had no reason to anticipate that the Transactions could be issued in better style in New York than in Philadelphia.

Dr. SAYRE, of N. Y., thought that it would be unprecedented in the Annals of the Association, if any part of the report of the Nominating Committee should be rejected. He considered that the Association might as well appoint a permanent President as a permanent Committee of Publication. He had no fault to find with the former Committee, but he desired not to entail the labor and responsibilities of publication permanently upon any set of gentlemen.

Dr. STORER, of Boston, Massachusetts, made an earnest appeal against change in the place of publication. He was opposed to displacing the old Committee, because it was admitted that they had faithfully fulfilled their duties. He felt that to supersede them was a slight, and he was opposed to change, merely to gratify New York at the expense of Philadelphia.

Dr. PAUL F. EVE, of Tennessee, advocated the confirmation of the report as presented by the Nominating Committee. He could see no good reason for going behind it. Dr. EVE, moreover, was of opinion that too much space had been given in the last volume of the Transactions to a paper by a gentleman of Philadelphia. He had understood that $1000 or $1200 had been consumed in getting up this paper, and that the plates prepared at the expense of the Association had afterwards been sold for a trifle to a publishing house in Philadelphia, who issued the paper in separate form, thus interfering with the sale of the Transactions.

Dr. LEMOINE, of Missouri, thought that it had been understood at the last meeting, that the expense of the paper in question would not be objected to.

The debate was continued by Drs. PADDOCK, of Illinois, and HERRICK, of Illinois, in favor of the report of the Nominating Committee, and by Dr. MCPHEETERS, of Mo., in favor of Dr. REYBURN's amendment.

A motion now prevailed, that the Association go into Committee of the Whole, on the subject, and Dr. ELBERT, of Iowa, was called to the Chair.

Dr. N. S. DAVIS, of Illinois, made a lengthy argument in favor of sustaining the Report of the Nominating Committee.

On the question being taken, the amendment of Dr. REYBURN was carried, and the Committee then rose, and the Association adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

The Association convened at three o'clock, Dr. POPE in the Chair.

A resolution was offered by Dr. STORER in relation to permanent members, which was unanimously carried.

A resolution was offered to the effect that W. S. MAUS, M. D., of Pekin, Illinois, be elected a permanent member—which was carried unanimously.

Dr. ATLEE offered the following resolution, which was carried.

Resolved, That this Association earnestly recommend to their medical brethren in those States in which Societies do not exist, the immediate organization of State and County Medical Societies.

Dr. RAMSEY offered a resolution, which, on motion of Dr. COONS, was laid on the table.

Dr. BRECKENRIDGE offered a resolution to the following effect:

Resolved, That the papers and documents of the Association shall hereafter be the exclusive property of the Association. Carried.

Dr. PHELPS, of New York, requested and obtained leave to read a document which he presented in the morning, and the reading of which had been deferred to allow the Committee on Nominations to make their report.

"The document purported to be an abstract of a paper which traces the connexion existing between medicine and religion in its origin and progress."

The document was referred to a Special Committee, to be appointed by the Chair. The President named Dr. ATLEE, Dr. SAYRE, and Dr. MARCH, as the Committee.

A motion was now made to proceed to the regular business, which was carried.

Dr. EVE moved that in the matter relating to the report of the Committee on Nominations, the blank occasioned by the amendment offered by Dr. REYBURN, which was adopted in Committee of the Whole, be referred back to the Nominating Committee for the purpose of filling up the blank, which was lost.

Dr. BRODIE now moved that the blank made by striking out the names of the Publication Committee in Committee of the Whole, be filled by re-inserting the names as reported by the Nominating Committee. This motion was advocated at length by Drs. BRECKENRIDGE, of Ky.; SAYRE, of N. Y.; MCDOWELL, of Mo.; WHITE, of N. Y.; PALMER, of Mich.; MCILVAINE, of Ohio, and others; and was opposed by Drs. ATLEE, of Pa., and STORER, of Mass. It finally prevailed, thus settling the question in favor of the report originally made by the Nominating Committee, which transfers the Publication of the Transactions of this meeting from Philadelphia to New York.

After this vote was announced, Dr. LA ROCHE, of Philadelphia, on behalf of the Philadelphia delegation, tendered the resignation of Dr. CONDIE, as Treasurer, which was accepted.

On motion of Dr. BIDDLE, Dr. CHARLES HOOKER was elected Treasurer. Dr. HOOKER, however declined to accept the office.

Dr. WEST, of Philadelphia, one of the Secretaries, then tendered his resignation, and the question being upon accepting it, it was lost.

Dr. BRECKENRIDGE, of Kentucky, then offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Dr. Storer, of Mass., and carried :

Resolved, That hereafter the majority of the Committee of Publications shall be selected from the physicians of that city in which the Association may annually meet.

A vote of thanks was then unanimously returned to Dr. CONDIE for the able, zealous and impartial manner with which he had discharged his duties as Treasurer.

A resolution was offered to amend the constitution, by providing that its annual meetings shall be held on the second Monday in May, instead of the first Monday. The resolution, under the rule, lies over for a year.

Dr. W. H. BYFORD offered a resolution of thanks to Dr. PINCKNEY, of the United States Navy, for the able address delivered before the Association on the first day of its session, which was unanimously adopted.

Dr. ATLEE offered a resolution tendering the thanks of the Association, and of the individual members, to the citizens of St. Louis for their hospitality and kindness ; also, to the Directors of the various railroads and officers of steamboats, for the generous manner in which they have tendered their kind offices, which was adopted.

Dr. WHITE moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the late Publishing Committee for their faithful endeavors to serve the Association, which was unanimously adopted.

A resolution offered by Dr. W. W. HITT, touching alcoholic drinks, was referred to the Committee on Nominations.

A resolution offered by Dr. C. B. HUGHES, relating to specialty practice in Surgery, was on motion laid on the table.

Dr. WHITE, from the Nominating Committee, reported to the Association the name of Dr. BLATCHFORD, of New York, as Treasurer, in the place of Dr. CONDIE, resigned.

Dr. BLATCHFORD declined acting in that capacity, and the committee subsequently reported the name of Dr. ISAAC WOOD, of New York. They also reported a special committee on Epidemics, for the States of Virginia and North Carolina, with Dr. HASKINS as Chairman; and also, the resolution relative to alcoholic drinks was reported back by them, referring it to a special committee, consisting of Dr. MUSSEY.

Dr. W. S. EDGAR offered a resolution in regard to the compounding of medicines, and recommending apothecaries to use different colored paper in putting up poisonous drugs, with an appropriate stamp upon it, in contradistinction to other medicines.

On motion of Dr. SMITH, of N. J., Dr. MCDOWELL's resolution, asking for a committee of investigation on claims to priority of invention of lithotomy instruments, was taken up ; and on motion of Dr. MCDOWELL, who said he did not wish to press it in the absence of Dr. N. R. SMITH, it was laid over to next year.

Dr. BANE, of Illinois, was elected a permanent member.

A letter from Dr. ENGELMAN, of St. Louis, was read, resigning his situation as Chairman on one of the special committees, but the Association refused to accept it.

The following resolution, offered by Dr. J. B. LINDSEY, was, on motion, laid on the table :

Resolved, That the too prevalent practice of Professors in Medical Colleges recommending their own writings and editings as text books for their students, is, in the opinion of the Association, a serious evil, trammelling as it does, the student in his choice of books, and promoting the publication and circulation of works of inferior merit.

A vote of thanks was returned to Dr. HOOKER, Treasurer pro tem.

Dr. GROSS informed the Association that the second volume of the work of the late Professor DRAKE, of Cincinnati, was now in the press, at Philadelphia, and would be issued early in the present summer. The second volume he said was on Practical Medicine, and will be entirely independent of the first,

The Association then adjourned *sine die*.

RECORD OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.

On the Diagnostic value of the absence of Chlorides from the Urine. —Simon and Redtenbacher first stated that chloride of sodium, a salt always present in healthy urine, was absent from that fluid during the onward progress of pneumonia, and returned to it when absorption of the exudation was about to commence. This statement was confirmed by Dr. Beale of London, who, in the 35th vol. of the Transactions of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of London, furthered our knowledge regarding it by additional valuable researches. My attention was directed to this remarkable fact during the present session by Dr. Robert Cartwright, a gentleman attending the Clinical Wards of the Infirmary, who informed me that he had seen it occasionally of great service in a diagnostic point of view, in the clinical wards of Professor Oppolzer at Vienna. It so happened that a man, John M'Donald, æt. 25, had just been admitted laboring under well marked simple pneumonia at the apex of the right lung. He was a laborer, who had enjoyed perfect health until two days before admission, when, on being exposed to wet and cold working at drains, he was seized with shivering followed by fever, and the usual symptoms and signs of pneumonia. On adding a drop of nitric acid to some of his urine in a test tube, and then dropping into it a little solution of the nitrate of silver, the fluid remained clear, although so great is the delicacy of this test, that a white cloudy precipitate is at once formed, if a very minute quantity of the chloride of sodium be present. It was on the fourth day of the disease that the observation was first made, and the chlorides remained absent during the fifth and sixth days, during which period the disease extended from above downwards, until it occupied the upper two-thirds of the right lung. On the seventh day a slight haze was observed in the urine, indicating that the salt was returning to that fluid, and the man expressed himself as being much better. On this day there was great dulness on percussion, all crepitation had ceased, the breathing was tubular with bronchophony. On the eighth day slight returning crepitation was audible, the dulness had diminished, but the urine, owing to some accident before the visit, had been thrown away. On the ninth day, however, the chlorides were abundant in that

fluid, together with lithates, loud crepitation was now universal throughout the lung, and the dulness had nearly disappeared. From this time the man made a rapid recovery, never having been bled, and was discharged quite well on the sixteenth day.

I now requested Mr. Seymour, one of the clinical clerks, to test the urine of all the patients in the ward, and others who might subsequently be admitted, which he did, and thus collected a large number of observations, the results of which I shall allude to immediately. In the mean time another case entered, which seemed to point out the value of this test in a diagnostic point of view. It was that of a man, Donaldson, æt. 26, laboring under typhus fever, in whom the disease ran its usual course to the tenth day, when chlorides were demonstrated in it. On the 11th day, however, pulmonary symptoms came on, and the chlorides were entirely absent from the urine. This led me to make, with the clinical class, a careful examination of the chest, when all the signs of pneumonia were detected in the lower half of the right lung. On the fourteenth day the chlorides reappeared, the pneumonic signs diminished (?) and the fever ceased with a critical sweat.

The third case was even more satisfactory in proving the moment of commencing and departing pneumonia by testing the urine for chloride of sodium. A man called David Murray, æt. 43, entered with pneumonia of the lower two-thirds of the right lung. No consistent account could be obtained from him as to when the disease commenced, and it was impossible, therefore, to determine whether the coarse crepitation which was audible over the inflamed lung was the advancing or returning crepitation. But the chlorides were absent from the urine, which indicated that the disease was advancing. The following day complete consolidation had occurred, with dry tubercular breathing and absence of crepitation, and a minute quantity of the chlorides was found in the urine. The patient, however, instead of getting better showed no improvement, and the next day the chlorides had again disappeared, indicating extension of the pneumonia. On the evening of this day he was seized with acute meningitis of which he died. On dissection, in addition to universal cerebral meningitis, the whole of the right lung presented the usual characters of grey hepatization.

These cases serve to point out a remarkable connection between the absence of chlorides from the urine and the onward progress of pneumonia. I forbear from offering any opinion as to the theories which have or may be advanced on this subject. The fact requires to be more extensively investigated clinically than has yet been done to test its value.

Mr. Seymour tested with great care, and at repeated times, the urine of upwards of fifty other cases in the wards, embracing a great variety of disease. He found the chlorides absent in one case of phthisis, with intercurrent pneumonia, but in no other. They were also absent in one case of peritonitis, and in all the cases of small-pox. Further investigation will probably discover these salts to be absent in other diseases, which, although it may diminish the importance of the sign as distinctive of pneumonia, leaves unaffected its value as pointing out the onward progress of that disease.

I need only now allude to one other point, viz., that if any phosphates exist in the urine, nitrate of silver throws down a faint sediment, which, although it cannot be mistaken for the precipitate of chlorides in healthy urine, may be confounded with the appearance it presents when small in amount. In such a case the action of ammonia, by dissolving the chlorides, is at once distinctive.—*Edin. Monthly Journ. of Med. Science.*

Abstract of Meteorological Observations for April, 1854, *made at Philadelphia, Pa. Latitude* 39° 57′ 28″ *N. Longitude* 75° 10′ 40″ *W. of Greenwich.* By Prof. James A. Kirkpatrick.

1854. April.	Barometer. Daily Mean	Barometer. Mean Daily Range.	Thermom. Daily Mean	Thermom. Mean Daily Range	Dew Point 2 P M.	Prevailing Winds.	General Remarks.
	Inches.	Inches.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Points.	
1	29.649	.330	47.2	8.2	46.3	(Var.)	Cloudy. *Rain* and *hail* 2½ to 6½ P.M. 0.060
2	30.133	.484	37.0	12.8	23.7	N.W.	M. and ev. clear, aft. cloudy. [inches.
3	30.458	.325	34.0	1.8	23.7	S.S.E.	Clear. Barom. highest 30.518; therm. low-
4	30.313	.146	42.0	10.5	34.3	S.W.	Cloudy. [est 28°
5	30.086	.227	54.5	10.5	40.7	S.S.W.	do.
6	29.785	.301	33.0	7.8	37.7	S.W.	M. and aft. cloudy, ev. clear.
7	29.957	.250	60.0	6.2	32.0	N.W.	Cloudy.
8	30.104	.197	55.0	5.8	38.0	(Var.)	do.
9	29.769	.335	64.0	9.2	46.7	S.W.	do. ev. halo round the moon.
10	29.332	.437	58.0	11.3	51.7	(Var.)	do. showers all day; aft. thunder and lightning. Barom. lowest 29.249 in.
11	29.851	.519	45.5	11.8	29.7	N.N.W.	M. cloudy; rain stopped at 7 A.M., 0.744: aft.
12	30.059	.209	50.0	3.0	37.7	(Var.)	Cloudy. [and ev. clear.
13	30.048	.015	56.5	6.7	47.3	(Var.)	do.
14	30.200	.152	42.0	10.0	33.3	E.N.E.	do. *Hail* 1¾ to 2 P.M.; *Rain* 4 P.M., during night changed to *Snow*.
15	29.821	.379	32.5	6.3	32.7	N.E.	do. *Snow* stopped at 11½ A.M. 1.380 in. *Snow* during the night.
16	29.783	.038	31.0	2.3	33.0	N.E.	do. *Snow storm* with heavy wind, 8½ A.M. to 6 P.M., and again during night.
17	29.642	.141	32.5	2.3	33.7	N.E.	do. Snow, stopped at 6 P.M. 1.078 inches.
18	29.791	.149	38.5	8.0	30.7	(Var.)	M. and aft. cloudy, ev. clear.
19	29.868	.077	48.0	8.5	33.3	S.W.	Cloudy.
20	29.741	.127	51.5	3.5	49.7	S.W.	do. *Showers* from 0 M. to 4 P.M. 0.044 in.
21	29.874	.133	54.0	1.7	32.7	(Var.)	M. and ev. cloudy; aft. clear.
22	29.717	.192	57.0	4.0	42.7	S.W.	Cloudy. *Showers* all day, with thunder and lightning.
23	29.751	.200	49.0	8.0	42.3	(Var.)	M. and aft. cloudy. *Rain* stopped at 10 A.M. 0.432 inches; ev. clear.
24	29.954	.202	52.0	4.0	42.3	S.W.	M. and aft. cloudy, ev. clear.
25	29.785	.169	63.0	10.0	43.3	S.W.	do. do. do.
26	29.596	.189	70.0	5.3	52.0	S.W.	Cloudy. *Showers* with thunder and lightning. 0.064 inches.
27	29.550	.085	73.0	3.7	50.0	S.W.	do. 4 P.M. *thunder* storm, 5 P.M. heavy rain. Therm. highest 85°.
28	29-909	.359	45.0	24.0	41.0	N.	do. *Rain* stopped at 10¾ A.M. 2.619 in. rain again at 8½ P.M.
29	29.814	.176	45.3	4.8	51.3	N.E.	do. Rain stopped at 6½ P.M. 1.724 in.
30	29.834	.072	51.5	3.2	45.3	Var.	do.
Means for 1854	29.872	.221	50.1	7.2	39.3	S.W.N.E	8.145 inches rain.
Means for 1853	29.850		52.1		40.3	S.W.N.E	3.889 do. do.
Means for 1852	29.652		47.3		37.1	N.E.W.	6.440 do. do.
Means for 3years	29.791		49.8		38.9	N.E.S.W	6.155 inches.

The observations are made at 7 A.M., 2 P.M. and 9 P.M. The barometric mean is found by combining the three observations; the thermometric mean is found by combining the lowest for the day with the two o'clock observation. The Dew Point is found by calculation from Mason's Hygrometer. The mean daily range of the barometer and thermometer is found by taking the mean of the difference between the observations of one day and those of the corresponding times of the previous day. The extreme range of the barometer during the present month was 1.269 inches, and of the thermometer 57°.